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PG. 26

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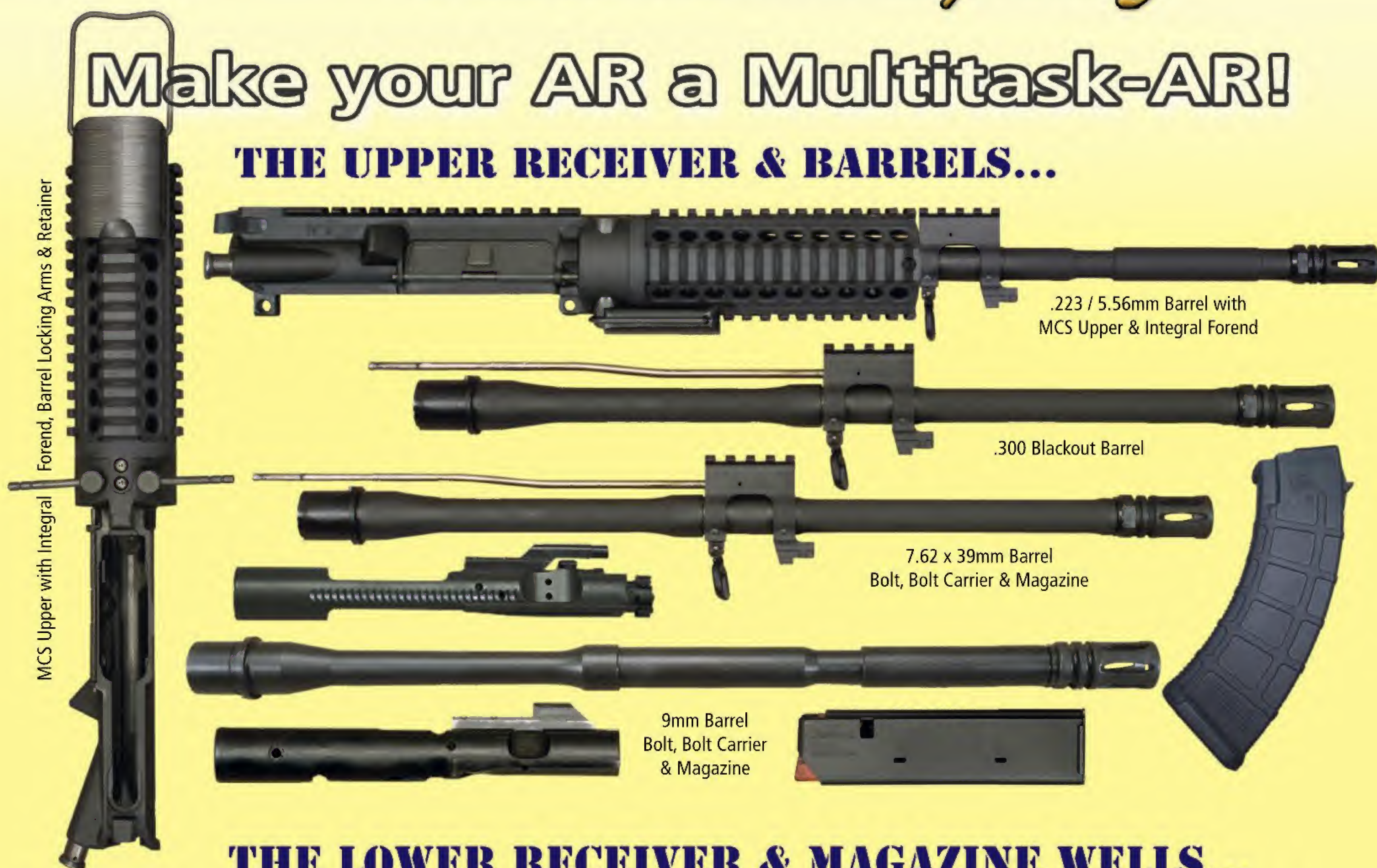
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LIFE & DEATH CRISES

How officers can help mentally ill subjects and prevent further violence.



Patrick Lanham Photo

BY LANCE J. LORUSSO The first question to ask is this: What does it mean to be “mentally ill”?

According to the National Alliance on Mental Illness, as many as 60 million Americans live with mental illness. But, this does not fully answer the question. Officers may have interactions with a person who suffers from mental illness and not have any idea that the person is suffering from a mental illness. However, from the perspective of law enforcement, mental illness typically becomes an issue when the person suffering is in crisis, has been non-compliant with medication or is experiencing previously undiagnosed symptoms.

FBI statistics from 2003 to 2012 reveal some insight into the number of violent encounters between mentally ill subjects and LEOs. During this period, 535 LEOs were killed but only 6 of those LEOs were reportedly involved in encounters with mentally ill subjects. Of the 581,239 LEOs assaulted during this period, only 2 percent, or roughly 11,600, were handling a call involving a mentally ill subject. However, the classification of a person as mentally ill depends on the existence of a prior formal diagnosis, whereas a drug- or state-dependent psychosis, or simply an undiagnosed condition such as severe depression, can cause irrational and dangerous behavior. All three of these conditions have led to countless deadly-force encounters between LEOs and subjects.

One fact is undeniable: There is a shortage of facilities to house and treat mentally ill subjects. For the past 25 years, mental health facilities and hospitals have been closing at an alarming rate. Although the figures vary depending upon the source, there is no dispute that the number of facilities available for families, LEOs, employers and the patients themselves seeking long- and short-term treatment is dwindling. The result is obvious and tragic. The illness goes untreated, the patient suffers and the manifestations of the illness affect everyone.

Crisis Interventions

Law enforcement nationally has been working to get up to speed with the fact that LEOs are encountering more and more people affected by mental illness. Crisis Intervention Training, cooperative efforts between medical personnel, LEOs and medical facilities, have helped a great deal. In Muscogee County and Cobb County, Georgia, the judiciary is bringing resources to bear in the form of Mental Health Courts. These courts identify criminal offenders who committed crimes as a symptom of their disease. Mandatory counseling is established and charges are held in abeyance. The programs have been considered successes not only by the individuals, but also by the LEOs working in pre-trial detention facilities who are no longer handling inmates who may be difficult to control and often violent due to a lack of treatment.

Despite the programs, initiatives and facilities available, there is a critical nexus between the actions of a mentally ill subject and responding LEOs that cannot be overlooked. Law enforcement must protect the public and themselves. When a person, irrespective of their mental health, poses an immediate deadly threat to responding LEOs or the public, they must act.

While less-lethal options may be available, a conductive-energy weapon is not an appropriate response to an edged weapon, a blunt instrument like a club or bat, or a firearm. Although there may be an opportunity to deploy such options if, and only if, an appropriate cover officer is available to respond with deadly force if necessary, many times the situation unfolds too rapidly or the proximity between the subject and the public or the LEO does not provide an opportunity to use anything other than deadly force.

So LEOs listen to commentaries by politicians and advocates who speak about the difficulty of mentally ill subjects living in a society that understands very little about mental illness, fears mental illness and often overreacts to any behavior that is the least bit out of the ordinary. LEOs understand the scope of the problem. They understand the need for intervention. They also suffer the consequences when they are forced to use deadly force against a mentally ill subject. Often, they are presented with a Hobson's choice, taking a life or losing their own.

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12-LAST-DITCH BACKUPS



**COMPACT PISTOLS AND REVOLVERS
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NO MATTER WHAT!**

By Richard Johnson





ATTACKED AT HOME

Seven real cases highlight why you always need to be vigilant!

BY MASSAD AYOOB

In the police academy, the assumption is that the officer will usually be the rescuer responding to the home of one of the citizens he or she is sworn to protect.

All LEOs need to remember that sometimes the officer is the intended victim while off duty, and yes, it can happen at home.

Let's examine some cases that highlight this danger. **Case One** took place in Port Arthur, Texas, on September 12, 2015. According to Channel 12 News, "An investigation is underway into a shooting at the home of a Port Arthur police officer. According to the Port Arthur Police Department, at approximately 12:30 a.m. Thursday, Officer Ahmall Bodden was at his home...with his family when he heard glass breaking at the front of his home."

Officer Bodden's wife gathered their children and bunkered up while calling 9-1-1, and Bodden himself went to an interdiction position. When he discovered the intruder, who came at him with a hammer, Bodden dropped him with a bullet to the pelvic girdle. For this I'd like to congratulate Officer Bodden. Sadly, brother and sister officers elsewhere have sometimes not come out as well.

Case Two occurred in early October of 2015 in Memphis, Tennessee. Police Officer Terence Olridge was off duty outside his house and about to go to work when he became involved in an argument with a neighbor, who pulled a gun. Shots were exchanged, and Olridge became the fourth Memphis cop to be killed in a just over four years. As of this writing, the neighbor who shot him is in custody. It has been reported that this

was not the accused man's first hostile encounter with neighbors.

Case Three took place in Abilene, Texas, on August 31, 2015, when Police Officer Don Allen was murdered in his home. The police arrested a husband-wife pair for the crime, and they are now awaiting trial. The trial evidence includes some of the murdered officer's property found in the accused pair's possession. Is this sort of thing a rare occurrence? Not at all. Check the dates: All three of these incidents occurred within six weeks of one another.

HOME IS NOT A HAVEN

Chicago Police can tell you that the murder of off-duty officers is an ever-present concern. Consider the following three cases of Chicago police officers murdered within just the last five years.



Police officers make more enemies than most folks, and their homes are by no means immune to invasion. Always keep your guard up.

Alfredo Rico Photo

Case Four: In 2010, Officer Thomas Wortham IV was visiting his father, a retired CPD cop, when he saw multiple offenders stealing his motorcycle from in front of the house. The two-time Iraq War vet stepped outside to intervene. He was shot and killed by the offenders. His father, the retired cop, returned fire and killed one of them. The rest of the attackers were convicted of the murder in 2015.

“...sometimes the officer is the intended victim while off duty, and yes, it can happen at home.”



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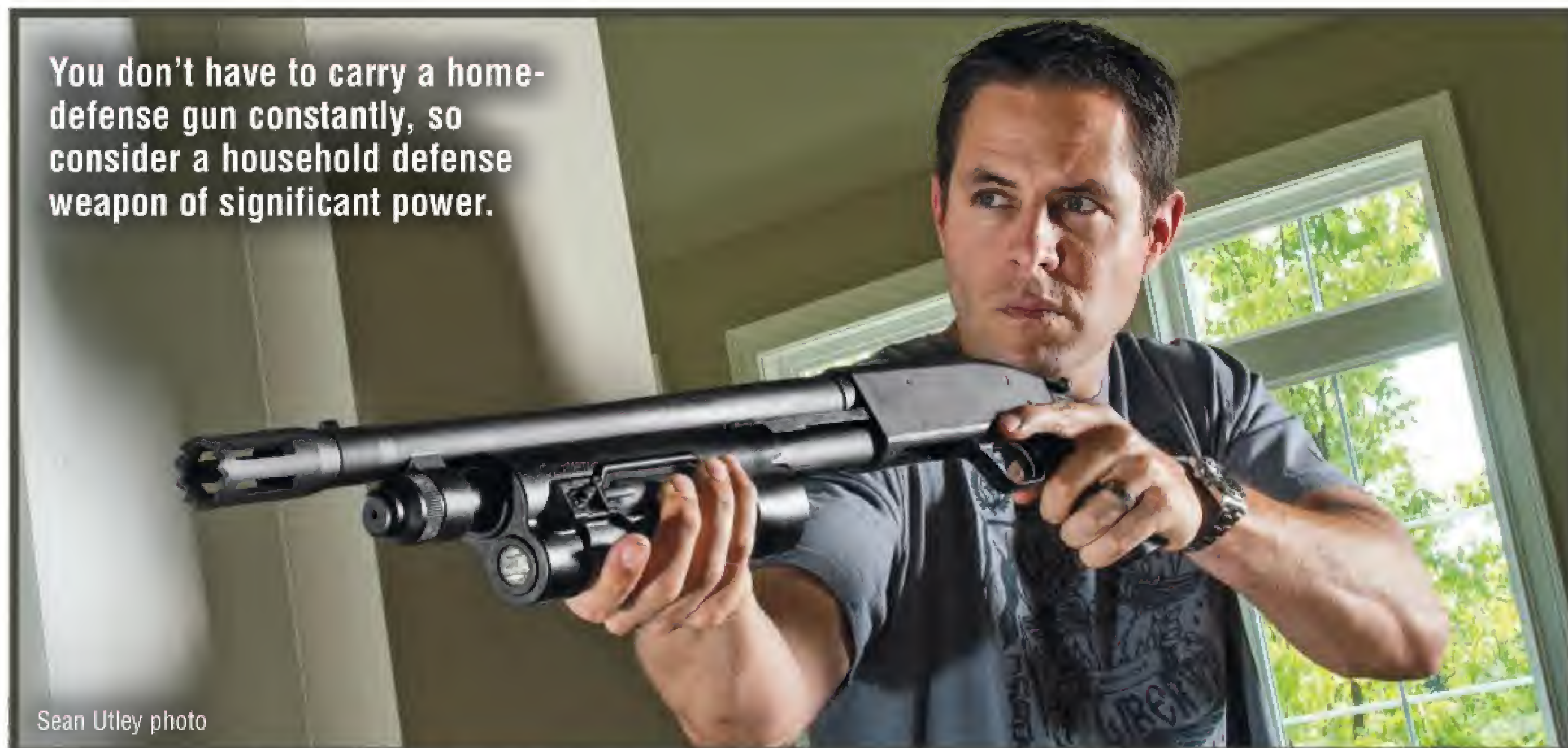
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ATTACKED AT HOME

You don't have to carry a home-defense gun constantly, so consider a household defense weapon of significant power.



Case Five: Also in 2010, 20-year CPD Officer Michael Bailey, a member of then-Mayor Daley's executive protection team, was in his driveway washing his personal vehicle when a thug attempted to steal it at gunpoint. Bailey was killed in the gun battle that followed. His murderer has since been convicted.

Case Six: In 2011, retired Officer Hester Scott was murdered in her own home, stabbed and bludgeoned to death by her own 15-year-old grandson.

It is hard to imagine a situation more horrible than a cop having to shoot a beloved family member, yet sometimes the alternative is worse. In stark contrast to Case Six we have **Case Seven**, which took place in Orlando, Florida, in which a retired OPD officer was savagely attacked by his 22-year-old son and was forced to shoot him in self-defense to save his life. Tried for second-degree murder in that shooting, the grieving officer was acquitted on all charges by a jury in 2013.

These cases—and there are too many more to list here—show that even a police officer's home is not the safe haven we all like to think it is. From bedroom to foyer to driveway to sidewalk or front lawn, reality shows that these things happen, and these things kill cops.

The lessons? In some of the aforementioned cases, the officers were armed and even shot back, but that in itself was insufficient. In such cases, the officer was apparently caught too far behind the curve of the murderer's aggression to catch up. Being able to see the danger coming and "play your game instead of his" seems to offer the best hope for survival. The officer who scores the first telling hits is on a faster track to survival. This is why some police instructors counsel, "If the offender's actions decree it must happen, make it a shooting, not a gunfight."

The final answer may be that constantly honed skill and constant vigilance comprise the price we must pay to be safe, even at home. This column is dedicated to the aforementioned police officers whose lives were taken from them.



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M-LOK'D & LOADED

Magpul's M-LOK system helps add critical accessories to your rifle or shotgun.

BY RICHARD JOHNSON



Magpul's cutting-edge M-LOK system makes it easy to add mission-critical accessories like sights and rail covers without requiring bulky Picatinny rails.

Men have been attaching things to their rifles for nearly as long as they have carried them in battle.

In the modern era, the addition of accessories to a firearm bordered on the ludicrous as we entered the "Age of the AR."

While various proprietary systems have come and gone, the MIL-STD-1913 (or Pica-

tinny) rail has become nearly ubiquitous in the military and sporting arms markets. However, the system is not perfect. Picatinny rails tend to be both bulky and heavy, with unused sections of rail needlessly adding weight because they are not removable without the use of a grinding tool. For a rifle that may be carried for many hours and miles, additional weight is a high price to pay for the ability to add a light or foregrip.

With the combat soldier in mind, Magpul set out to develop a new system that removed all of the rails in favor of a design that added weight only when absolutely necessary. Starting first with the company's existing proprietary design, the engineers continued the development process until the M-LOK system was perfected.

With the M-LOK system, heavy rails are removed and replaced with slots. Captive mounting screws with self-aligning T-nuts are then used to secure an accessory into place. Due to the design, the accessory is

supported front to back and up and down by the handguard before the nuts are even tightened into place. Once locked down, the connection is extremely solid.

The M-LOK system is available to other manufacturers under a free license arrangement. This means that anyone can develop M-LOK-compatible components, and the consumer is assured that any M-LOK part will be compatible with any M-LOK rail, regardless of manufacturer.

M-LOK HANDGUARDS

The base for any accessory system on a modern rifle is the handguard. The handguard is where all M-LOK accessories attach to the weapon. Magpul offers five different handguards for the AR platform of carbine, mid and rifle lengths. Like many of Magpul's products, these handguards are made of high-strength polymer that is designed for the most rugged duty possible.

All of the AR handguards are compatible



Magpul offers secure, M-LOK-compatible mounts for tactical lights, tape switches, bipods and more.



with an A2-type front sight tower, and they can be had in one of four colors: black, OD green, stealth gray and Flat Dark Earth (FDE.) These two-piece handguards are direct replacements for standard handguards, and the standard retaining caps and delta rings are used.

While the AR-15 may be king with U.S. shooters, there is little doubt that AK-style rifles hold a special place in many shooters' hearts and gun safes. To serve these customers, Magpul also offers M-LOK handguards for AK-47/AKM/AK-74-platform rifles. These handguards extend the grip area and have integrated heat shields in addition to accessory mounting points. AK-type handguards are available in the same colors as the AR, plus a plum color.

While rifles are extremely popular, shotguns remain an excellent choice for home defense as well as police and military duties. For these users, Magpul has M-LOK forends for the Remington 870 and Mossberg 590/590A1 series shotguns. These forends allow you to smoothly operate the pump action while putting a light or laser at the ready. These shotgun forends are available in black, FDE and gray. Additionally, these can be had in orange, a color often used by police agencies to indicate a shotgun designated for less-lethal munitions.

FORWARD GRIPS

One of the rifle accessories that has become very popular over the last two decades is the foregrip. Foregrips on rifles can take several different forms, and the most popular seems to be the vertical grip. A vertical foregrip most often attaches to the 6 o'clock position on a handguard and extends toward the deck at a 90-degree

angle. Magpul offers the M-LOK MVG vertical foregrip for this purpose.

The M-LOK MVG is a polymer grip that is lightweight and durable. It mounts directly to the M-LOK handguard. The edges of the M-LOK MVG are rounded, and it has a relatively short length. Combined with the company's TSP texture, the M-LOK MVG works well with shooters employing both a traditional vertical grip and the thumb-break



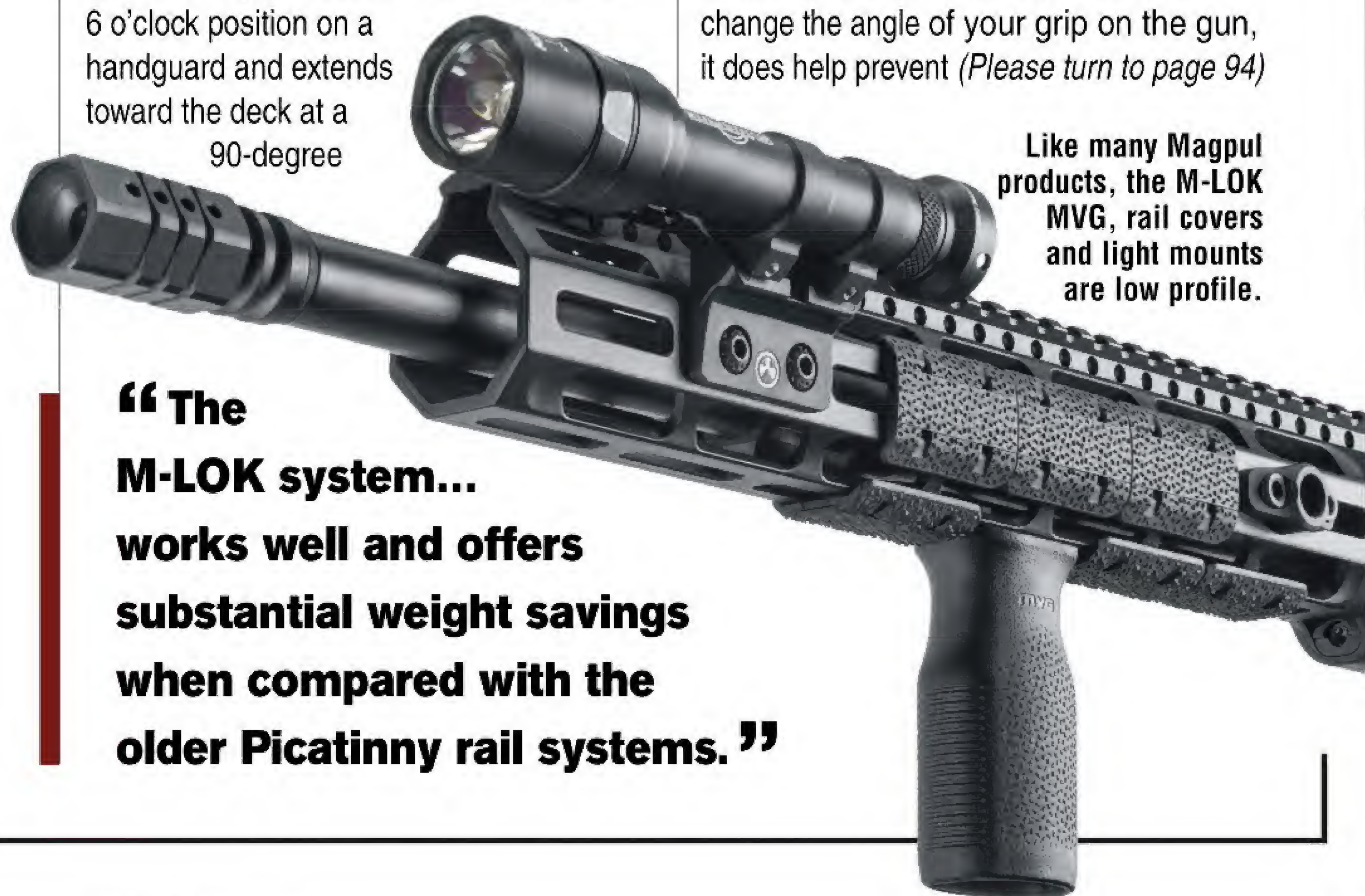
The M-LOK Tape Switch Mounting Plate can secure your SureFire ST pressure pad.

method. As with many of the other M-LOK accessories, these grips are available in black, FDE, OD green and stealth gray.

If you prefer an angled foregrip, Magpul offers the M-LOK AFG for the M-LOK system. The M-LOK AFG incorporates many of the design features of the original AFG while being lower profile because of the M-LOK design. Consequently, these rugged grips weigh little more than 1 ounce yet still improve the shooter's control of the weapon during recoil. They are also available in the standard Magpul colors.

For the ultimate in low-profile forward grips, consider the M-LOK Hand Stop Kit. While the M-LOK Hand Stop Kit does not change the angle of your grip on the gun, it does help prevent (Please turn to page 94)

Like many Magpul products, the M-LOK MVG, rail covers and light mounts are low profile.



“The M-LOK system... works well and offers substantial weight savings when compared with the older Picatinny rail systems.”

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PATROL RIFLE EVOLUTION

How and why AR-15s have taken over.

BY FRED MASTISON

On February 28, 1997, an LAPD patrol unit called for assistance with a “211 in progress,” or an armed robbery. That call was quickly followed by a “Shots fired! Require backup.”

This call would forever change the law enforcement weapons culture.

This was of course the infamous North Hollywood shootout where the LAPD ended up engaging two heavily armed suspects determined to avoid capture after a bank robbery.

The two assailants were armed with fully automatic rifles while the responding officers were relegated

to a variety of handguns and the rare shotgun. The two suspects also utilized body

armor, which the police stood little chance of defeating with handguns. This situation eventually drove several officers to enter a local gun store, where they secured rifles to engage the suspects. The fight continued until SWAT arrived and the suspects were stopped.

In the end, both sides had fired over 2,000 rounds, and when the smoke cleared, 18 people were injured and two were dead. This was one of the longest and bloodiest shootouts in American law enforcement history.

The incident sent ripples through the law enforcement community around the country. It

became evident that a glaring hole in firepower existed in the standard officer's loadout. Debate started, and the voices of officers began to be heard. They needed rifles. While there have always been agencies that deployed rifles with their standard patrol officers, a vast majority of agencies only issued handguns and the occasional shotgun as their general weapons package. The detailed review of the events in North Hollywood, however, became the catalyst for agencies across the U.S. to review their policies regarding rifles.

AR RETURNS

At first, many agencies scrambled to get rifles into patrol divisions. It was a mixed bag of weaponry ranging from Ruger Mini-14s to M1 Carbines. The rifle that ultimately would take center stage, however, was the AR-15. Taking its cue from the military, most agencies began to adopt the AR-15 as their primary duty rifle. It is lightweight, easy to shoot and was relatively inexpensive with which to equip an agency. Additionally, many officers across the

While bolt actions have ruled the precision rifle world for decades, ARs are becoming popular for snipers, too.

country had prior military service and were already familiar with the AR-15 platform. This allowed for a fairly smooth integration of the rifle into service.

The evolution of the patrol rifle here in the United States was partly influenced by law enforcement agencies around the world. Progressive U.S. agencies did their homework and looked at what their professional brothers and sisters were carrying abroad. What was ultimately concluded was that whatever rifle they chose, it had to serve in a specific role, a role that had the potential for diversity that would challenge most weapon systems. This only solidified the place of the AR-15.

TODAY'S RIFLES

Jump forward 19 years and we now see the current state of the patrol rifle in law enforcement culture. It is set in stone, and you would be hard pressed to get most officers to give up the comfort that a carbine

brings. What is not as set in stone are the configurations and brands of rifles in service. LE carbine classes are many times filled with a variety of rifles. From old Bushmasters with fixed carry handles to BCM



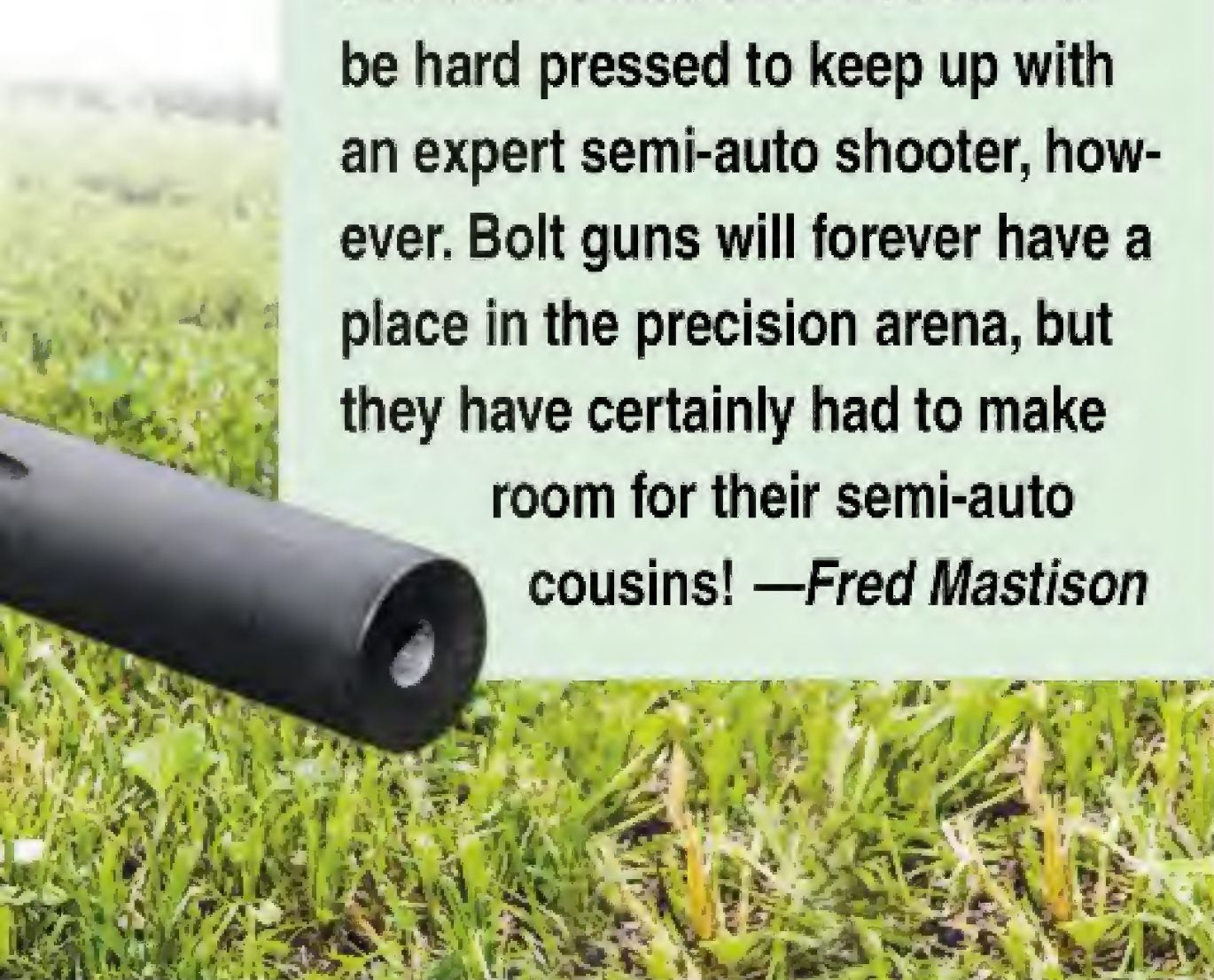


carbines fitted with enough hardware to land the space shuttle, we see it all. One of the reasons for this variety is that many agencies across the country allow officers to purchase their own weapons and use them on duty. They submit their request, and most agencies compare it to an "approved rifle" list. While this is financially beneficial to the agency, it creates a mixed bag of hardware. Add

THE SHIFT TOWARD SEMI-AUTOS

AS the world moves forward into the future, a general evolution takes place. Improvements in technology are a staple in a developing world. This evolution in technology has found its way into the firearms world as well, and more specifically the LE gun world. As manufacturing processes have improved, there has been a migration of LE agencies away from bolt-style rifles to gas-operated semi-autos. Precision shooting was once the sole realm of the bolt gun, but modern semi-autos have made a serious challenge to that title. In essence, they offer precision as well as more firepower and rapid-fire capabilities.

Rifles like the Grey Ghost Precision Specter Heavy and the LaRue Tactical OBR have improved many LE marksmen's abilities to better perform their duties. In the hands of an expert shooter, a bolt gun can be run very quickly. But even these shooters would be hard pressed to keep up with an expert semi-auto shooter, however. Bolt guns will forever have a place in the precision arena, but they have certainly had to make room for their semi-auto cousins! —Fred Mastison



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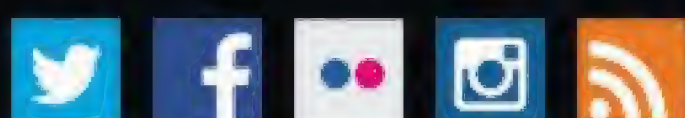
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PATROL RIFLE EVOLUTION



Training has evolved along with the rifles officers carry to replicate realistic scenarios.

to that the inevitable customization of rifles, which is more a rite of passage than an option. This creates a potentially problematic diversity of rifles inside an agency. The biggest problem arises in "cross use"—when another officer may need to deploy your weapon. They need to be as familiar with it

“...a handgun is nothing more than a weapon to help you fight your way to a rifle.”

as they are with their own. The willingness of agencies to allow such a wide spectrum of guns and modifications has the potential to come back and bite them at some point. Still, any rifle is better than no rifle.

It has been said that a handgun is nothing more than a weapon to help you fight your way to a rifle. That phrase has some merit. The world is a dangerous place, and those who choose to wear a badge step into that danger on a daily basis. The addition of a patrol rifle to an officer's available equipment is nothing but a positive. The hope is that it is never deployed, but if a North Hollywood event should happen again, agencies across the U.S. and around the world are better prepared to engage and stop the threat.



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I have been using and testing LWRC International rifles for years. In fact, LWRCI created one of the first reliable piston-driven ARs, and these rifles are popular among LE personnel and working professionals. I deployed with an early LWRCI upper with a 10.5-inch barrel that proved rugged, reliable and accurate—something uncommon at the time. Early short-barreled ARs were not always dependable, especially when suppressed. Built for hard use, that particular LWRCI upper was one of the most robust and ruggedly built I had ever seen or used. After a few years of hard use, I replaced it with the company's new 6.8 SPC offering at the time, the Six8 platform, which seemed to resolve the magazine issues found in other 6.8 SPC models because it was created with help from Magpul Industries. Now I've tested several Six8 rifles over the past few years, and they remain some of my favorites in just about any barrel length.

I recently tested LWRCI's IC-PSD variant of the Individual Carbine (IC) platform, which brought me back to the 5.56mm chambering. In short, I've tested several LWRCI rifles from

5.56mm to 7.62mm NATO, and they've all been built to work all the time and last a lifetime while doing so. All I needed was a direct-impingement (DI) rifle built to LWRCI's same standards, and the new IC-DI is just that.

SO WHY DI?

Piston-driven rifles are great—they bring things to the AR platform that most DI guns just cannot duplicate. They work better with barrels shorter than 10 inches and handle suppression much more easily. But they are expensive, heavy and a tad more complex. At the same time, many shooters don't need to run carbines with short barrels or suppressors. The vast majority of law enforcement applications are met quite nicely with a 16-inch barrel. Simplicity in the field is critical, and nothing meets that need like a well-built AR using a DI gas system. They're lightweight and affordable, and many department armorers tend to be trained for DI systems. This is why the vast majority of ARs today are DI designs.

So what is LWRCI bringing to the table? A few years ago, the U.S. Army initiated a product improvement program (PIP) to upgrade the existing M4 rifle. Phase II of the

THE DIRECT APPROACH

Make way for LWRCI's first direct-impingement AR—the IC-DI.

By David Bahde



The rifle's long top rail makes it easy to add optics like the Aimpoint Micro T-2 (shown).

LWRCI's Compact stock can be adjusted to six different length-of-pull positions.

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LWRCI IC-DI

Photo courtesy LWRCI



program involved the exploration of an improved bolt and bolt carrier design, with LWRCI submitting its own version. Ultimately, the program was ended in 2012 without adopting the designs submitted. Built from a high-strength super alloy, LWRCI's enhanced bolt includes a fully supported bolt face, dual extractor springs, a larger extractor and nickel-Teflon plating. It sits in a strengthened carrier utilizing an integrated gas key and a nested firing pin retaining slot. Sand cuts improve the dispersion of dust and debris, and the nickel-Teflon coating resists fouling for



The Individual Carbine lower receiver features ambidextrous controls and an enlarged triggerguard for gloved fingers.

improved overall reliability and longevity. It represents one of the best DI bolt carrier groups out there.

Consumer demand along with constant requests from dealers provided the impetus for a complete LWRCI DI rifle. Many agencies, officers and contract holders wanted a more affordable LWRCI rifle with all of its strengths and advantages intact. Mating the new bolt group with the existing improvements of the IC platform provided what may just be the perfect carbine.

GUN SPECS

The IC-DI starts with LWRCI's proven "double coined" upper and lower receivers, which are forged from 7075-T6 aluminum. They're easily some of



For handling and control, the IC-DI comes with a Magpul MOE pistol grip and LWRCI's own collapsible Compact stock.

SPECIFICATIONS

Caliber: 5.56mm NATO
Barrel: 16.1 inches
OA Length: 32-35.25 inches
Weight: 6.7 pounds (empty)
Stock: Collapsible
Sights: None
Action: Direct impingement semi-auto
Finish: Matte black
Capacity: 30+1 • **MSRP:** \$1,600

PERFORMANCE

Load	Velocity	Accuracy
Barnes 69 Match	2,880	0.75
Barnes 70 TSX	2,800	0.60
Hornady 55 V-MAX	2,950	0.80
Silver State Armory 77 OTM	2,750	1.00
Winchester 69 Match	2,900	0.85

Bullet weight measured in grains, velocity in fps by chronograph, and accuracy in inches for best five-shot groups at 100 yards.

the strongest receivers you can buy. Like all IC rifles, the lower receiver sports ambidextrous controls and an oversized triggerguard. A Magpul MOE grip is installed for enhanced control, while the LWRCI Compact stock makes it easy to use the IC-DI while wearing plate carriers or other duty gear. The lower's inter-

nals, including the trigger, are mil-spec. The upper receiver features a 16.1-inch, cold-hammer-forged barrel with a 1-in-7-inch twist rate, M4 feed ramps and a 5.56mm NATO chamber. The barrel is also fluted for reduced weight and improved cooling. Out front is an A2-style flash suppressor. The barrel is made from

41V45 steel and coated in NiCorr for longevity and corrosion resistance. Gas is delivered to the enhanced DI bolt carrier group using a NiCorr-coated gas tube. Surrounding the barrel and gas system is a slim, 15-inch handguard developed specifically for the IC-DI rifle. Attaching solidly at the receiver, it allows

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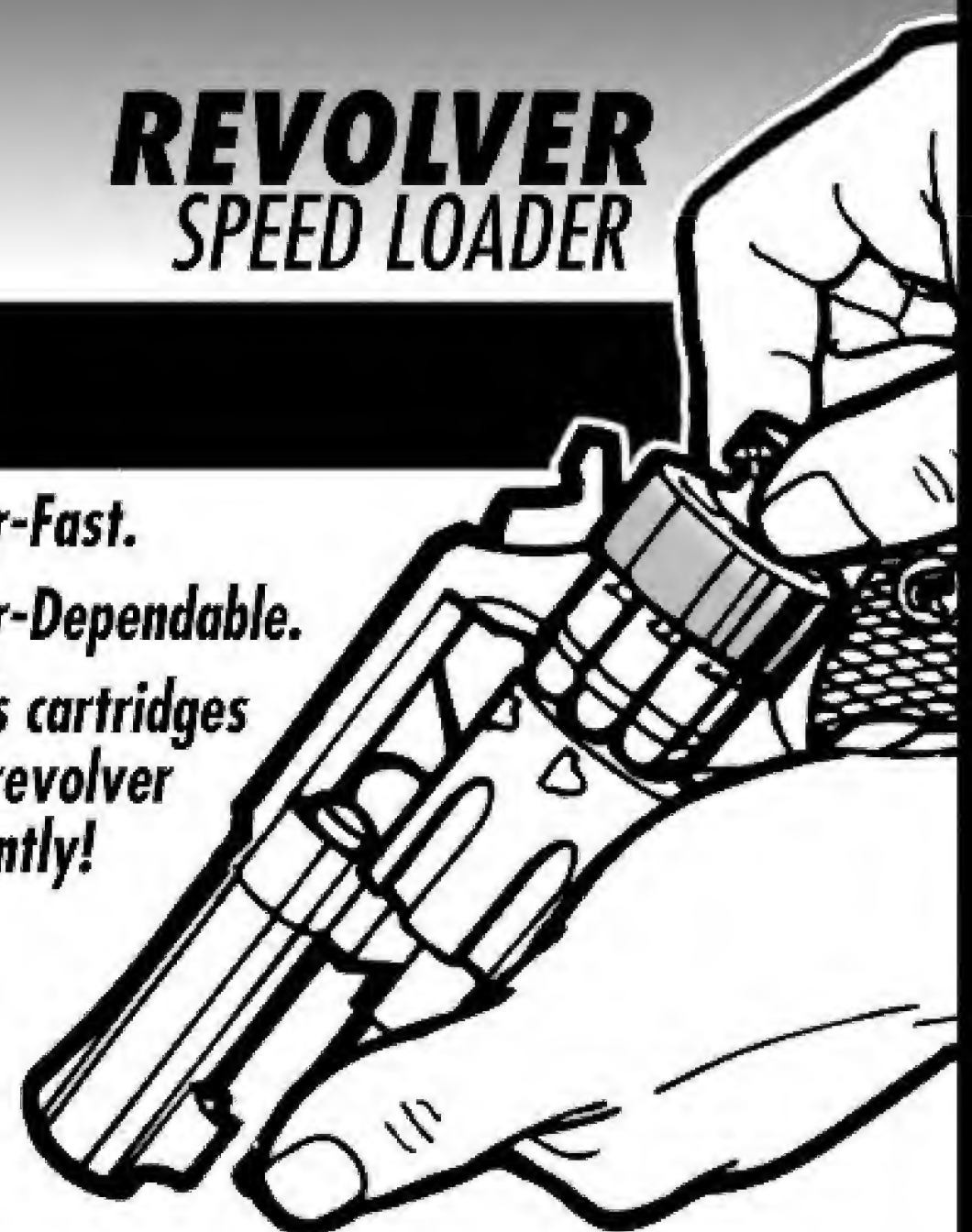
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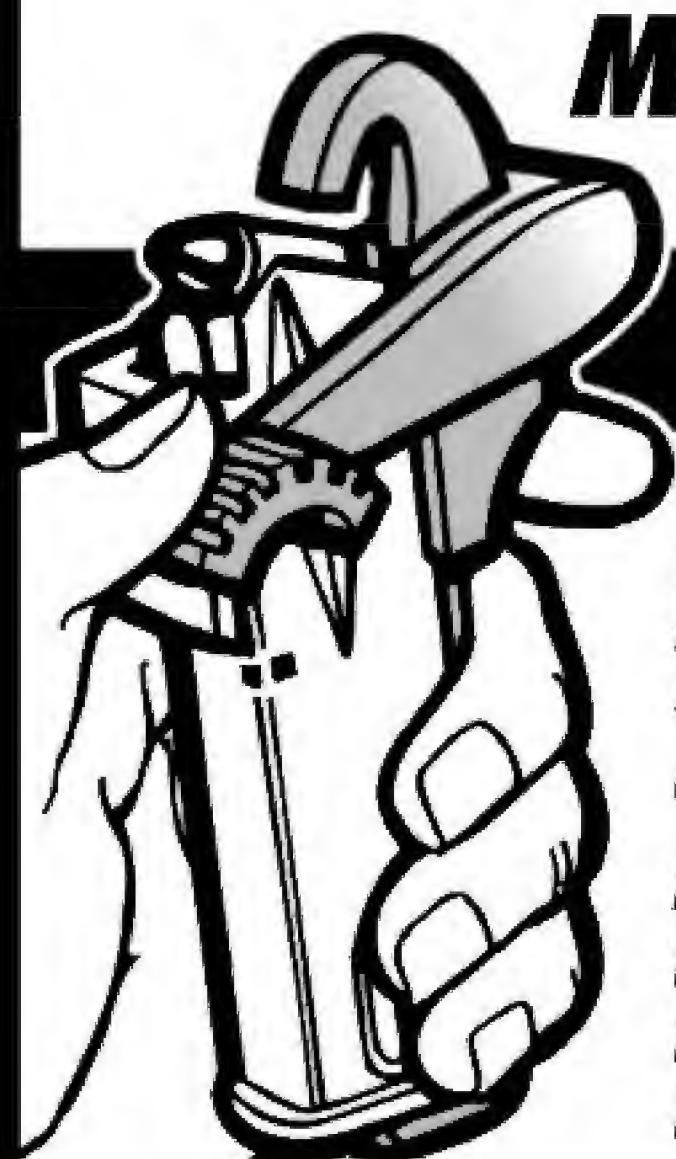
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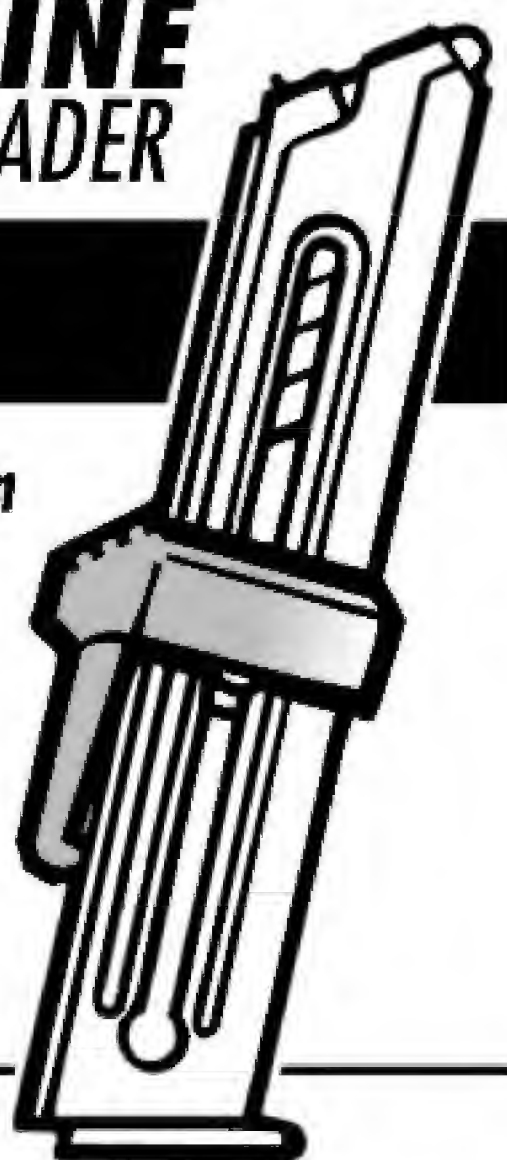
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LWRCI IC-DI



LWRCI's cold-hammer-forged barrels are renowned for their durability and longevity, and the 16.1-inch tube on the IC-DI features spiral fluting for reduced weight.

the barrel to float freely. Rails can be attached along the 3, 6 and 9 o'clock positions. The continuous top rail facilitates sights and other accessories. Rail panels were provided with my test rifle along with the company's Angled Foregrip. It also came with two accessory rails: a short one for lights or lasers and an angled rail that includes a QD sling cup. There is also a QD sling cup on the back of the Angled Foregrip. Each rifle ships with a single Magpul PMAG.

LIVE FIRE

For most of the testing I used an Aimpoint Micro T-2 in a LaRue Tactical mount, which placed the LWRCI backup sights I added into the lower third of the T-2's lens. I also added a SureFire Scout light in a LaRue Tactical light mount. To measure the carbine's accuracy, I used a Leupold 1.1-8x24mm Mark 8 CQBSS scope in a Leupold mount. Finally, I added a Vickers sling from Blue Force Gear. Because I recently dislocated my trigger finger, I mostly tested the IC-DI from my off (left) side. Thankfully, the ambidextrous controls made it easy to operate the rifle.

I only used my strong hand for the accuracy portion of the evaluation. But this did point out the trigger on the IC-DI. It is better than a typical mil-spec unit, but not by much. Many agencies require such a

trigger, and it keeps the price down—it's just not conducive group shooting. Still, I was able to produce groups under an inch, with the best measuring just over 0.6 inches using Barnes' 70-grain TSX ammunition. The IC-DI was plenty accurate. Moving to a nice two-stage trigger will likely improve things, but for a duty-ready rifle, this is more than adequate.

Donning a Velocity Systems plate carrier, the short stock proved invaluable. My arms are short to begin with, and standard stocks just extend my arms too far. LWRCI's short stock makes it possible to keep the rifle squarely in my workspace for reloads and other manipulations.

Again, having the ambidextrous controls was a boon, and it was good practice to primarily use my left side. Having the bolt release on both sides allowed me to use a couple different reloading methods. After a couple hundred rounds, I could use the carbine pretty smoothly. It also ran well inside a shoothouse, and I used the SureFire light with a tape switch mounted on top of the handguard for easy access. Having the light on the left side also meant that it cleared obstacles first when working around corners.

Moving around my FJ Cruiser took a bit of work considering I'm used to resting my left side on the bumper, for example. Once again, the ambidex-

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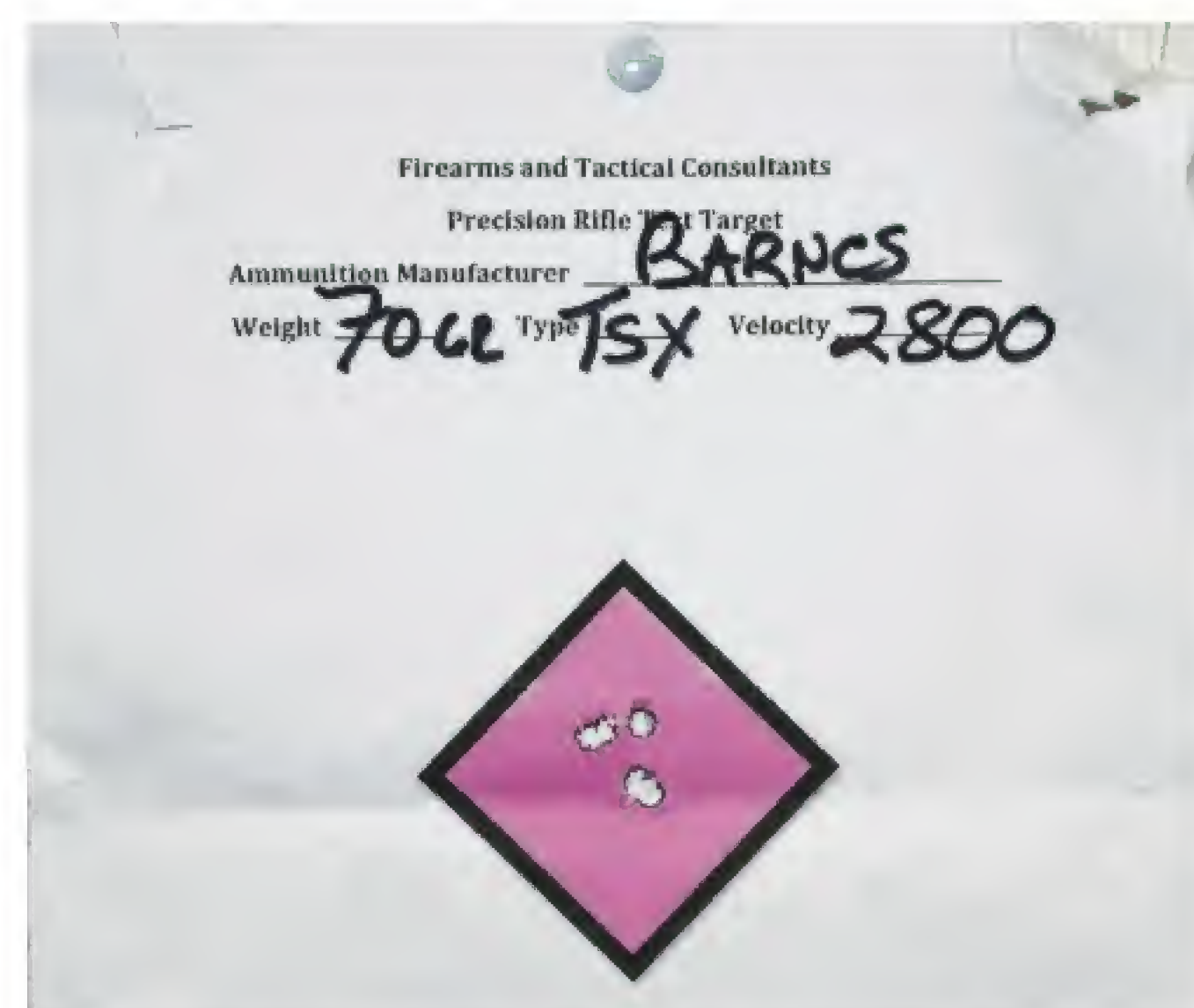
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LWRCI IC-DI



At the range, the IC-DI produced the best five-shot group—measuring just 0.6 inches—with Barnes' 70-grain TSX ammo.

trous controls really helped. It was possible to operate the safety easily. The safety levers are the same size on both sides of the receiver, making the transition much easier. Shorter safety levers are great for precision rifles, but not when you need to reach them with your off-side thumb. It took some practice, but after a couple of runs I got the hang of running the IC-DI from my left side, making me quite confident that I could use this rifle effectively in any condition.

FLAWLESS 5.56

The IC-DI never suffered a single malfunction. The ejection patterns were incredibly consistent over several types of ammunition. Even in less conventional shooting positions, brass never hit me in the face. Also, LWRCI's Angled Foregrip is the best I've used so far. It provides excellent control while serving as a stable support against barricades and other objects. I plan on using it with other rifles.

LWRCI is offering the IC-DI for \$1,600, which is comparable to other top-tier ARs. And, this model is as good as any top-tier AR I have tested. Short of a custom rifle, it just does not get much better than this. Everyone has their preferences when it comes to features, but everything on this rifle is top notch. More importantly, it is built like a tank with a robust gas block, a cold-hammer-forged barrel, forged receivers and an enhanced bolt carrier group. It's obvious that this rifle was built for those whose lives depend on its operation. If that's you, make sure you check out the LWRCI IC-DI. For more information, visit lwrci.com or call 410-901-1348.

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AT YOUR SERVICE

Springfield's newest 9mm XD Mod.2 is ready for extreme duty.



The new XD Mod.2 4" Service Model, with its Mod.2 styling and 4-inch barrel, comes in a case with a holster, a dual magazine pouch and extra magazines.

By Dennis Adler

Springfield's polymer-framed XD pistols are among the top-ranked handguns approved for law enforcement agencies, and the company recently introduced the 9mm XD Mod.2 4" Service Model for both on- and off-duty carry.

With its new Mod.2 series, Springfield Armory has taken the best aspects of its origi-

nal XD Sub-Compact and added improvements made with the XD-S. But that's not all. Mod.2 pistols sport re-contoured polymer frames and slides that give the guns

a cleaner, more integrated look. The new models also retain the XD striker status indicator (actually the back of the striker), which protrudes slightly from the rear of the slide. This is a very quick check to ensure that the action has been cycled and the gun is ready to fire. While it does not guarantee that a round

is chambered, a loaded-chamber indicator on top of the slide, just behind the ejection port, rises up slightly when a round is present in the chamber. These are both visual and tactile checks that can easily be seen and felt to verify the gun's status.

One of the Springfield Mod.2's more distinctive feature is the multi-surface texturing molded into the lightweight polymer frame.


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SPRINGFIELD XD MOD.2



For faster targeting, the pistol features a red fiber-optic front sight (top) as well as white-dot rear sight (below).

Designated the "GripZone," this provides aggressive texturing around the three-quarter panel where the palm swell and first joint of the fingers wrap around the grip. The front and rear surfaces have the second most aggressive texture where the palm and inside of the fingers grasp the pistol. Both provide a more tactile and secure grip, particularly in colder climates where tactical gloves may be worn as part of daily duty gear, or conversely in very warm and humid climates where perspiration can impede a solid grip on a pistol. The texturing in Springfield's Grip-

Zone contributes to maintaining a more secure hold. The remainder of the gun's texturing is a mild pebble finish that covers the sides of the grip and extends to the entire frame, again contributing to the pistol's more integrated look. Additionally, the Mod.2 triggerguard is rounded at the front like the latest XD-S models, rather than squared off like the earlier XD series pistols.

The slide is also revised with a new, more curved and slightly narrower width combined with deeper rear "Posi-Wedge" serrations. There are five rear serrations to help reduce slippage when racking the slide, and the 4" Service Model has three additional grooves at the front to aid in executing a press check.



The most important features of the 4" Service Model for law enforcement use are its sights. Mod.2 pistols are equipped with the same red fiber-optic front sights and white-dot rear sights used on Springfield's XD-S models. This gives Mod.2 pistols the same capability to sight in under a greater

SPRINGFIELD ARMORY XD MOD.2 4" SERVICE

SPECIFICATIONS

Caliber: 9mm • **Barrel:** 4 inches
OA Length: 7.3 inches
Weight: 27.5 ounces (empty)
Stock: Polymer • **Finish:** Matte black
Sights: Fiber-optic front, white-dot rear
Action: Striker-fired
Capacity: 16+1 • **MSRP:** \$549-616

PERFORMANCE

Load	Velocity	Accuracy
Federal American Eagle 115 FMJ	1,185	1.24
Federal Premium 124 Hydra-Shok JHP	1,095	1.75
Sig Sauer V-Crown JHP	1,125	1.20

Bullet weight measured in grains, velocity in fps by chronograph, and accuracy in inches for best five-shot groups at 15 yards.

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SPRINGFIELD XD MOD.2



The XD Mod.2 Service Model is only 1.125 inches wide, making it easier to carry, while offering a 4-inch barrel and a longer sight radius than previous XD Mod.2 models.

variety of lighting conditions, and the sights are dovetailed for individual sighting preferences and windage adjustments.

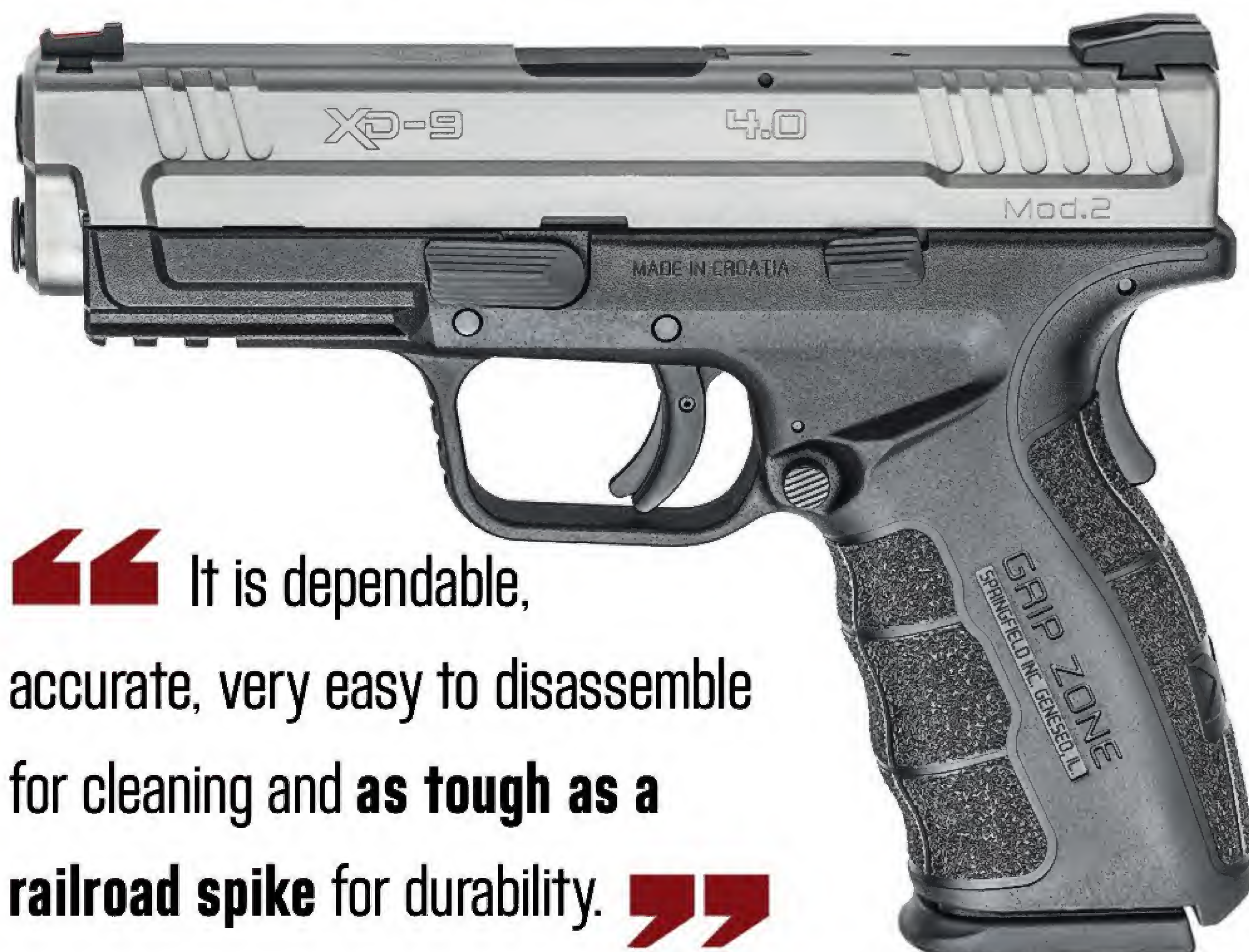
For safety in the field, the grip angle and beavertail grip safety work in combination with Springfield's Ultra Safety Assurance (USA) blade trigger safety to provide extra safeguards when presenting or holstering the pistol.

Tipping the scale at 27.5 ounces unloaded, the Service Model, with its 4-inch barrel, is a comparative lightweight in this handgun category. Measuring 7.3 inches in length, 5.5 inches in height (from the base of the magazine to the top of the low-profile rear sight) and 1.125

inches in width (including the slide, frame and slide release lever) this is a medium-sized pistol overall. Finally, the 9mm 4" Service Model has a standard 16+1 capacity.

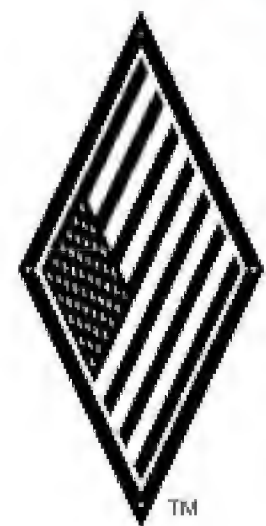
RANGE TEST

I performed my initial test of the 4" Service Model with Federal's 115-grain American Eagle FMJs at a range of 15 yards, firing at a Speedwell B-27 silhouette target. The best five-round group measured 1.24 inches in the 10 and X rings with two rounds almost in the same hole. A second series of tests was conducted using Sig Sauer's 124-grain Elite Performance V-Crown JHPs and Federal Premium's 124-grain Hydra-Shok JHPs. While the hard-ball ammunition averaged 1,185 fps through the traps of my ProChrono chronograph, the Federal Hydra-Shok and Sig V-Crown ammo averaged 1,095 fps and 1,125 fps, re-



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FIRST LOOK

SPRINGFIELD'S 40-CALIBER XD-S

Springfield Armory has had a string of successes with its subcompact XD-S pistols. Both the original .45 ACP and later 9mm subcompact models have become a standard for larger-caliber concealed carry and backup use. All that was missing for law enforcement was a .40 S&W model, which has joined the XD-S series in 2016.

As with previous XD-S semi-autos, the .40-caliber version shares the same dual external safety mechanisms: Springfield's Ultra Safety Assurance (USA) blade-style trigger mechanism and a secondary grip safety. Both must be engaged in order for the XD-S to discharge, thus this is a very secure sidearm to handle in the field. Another advantage is that the Springfield's ambidextrous magazine release does not employ a disconnecter, and the XD-S will discharge a chambered round with the magazine removed.

While the .45 ACP XD-S maintains a reasonable 5+1 standard capacity, the new .40-caliber XD-S ups the count to 6+1 with the flat-floorplate magazine and 7+1 with the extended magazine (the gun comes with one of each). The seven-round magazine also increases the grip length by 0.78 inches, allowing a full-hand grip for most shooters. Like the .45 ACP and 9mm models, the .40 has excellent weight and balance in the hand and reduced felt recoil with Springfield's specialized recoil spring and plunger design. The use of combat-style white-dot rear and red fiber-optic front sights also make this gun very quick to point under a wider variety of lighting situations.

The XD-S is a striker-fired design that Springfield has fine-tuned to reduce the trigger take-up and provide a short reset. Including engaging the blade trigger safety, there is about 0.5 inches of travel and the pull remains crisp and consistent at an average of 8.5 pounds. Essentially, the XD-S trigger is smooth with negligible stacking and zero overtravel. Overall, this is the same proven XD-S chambered in the most popular law enforcement chambering in use today, and as a backup to a full-sized service pistol, one would be hard pressed to do better.

—Dennis Adler



The slide features front and rear "Posi-Wedge" serrations for a secure grip during slide manipulations.



The 9mm pistol features low-profile controls as well as Springfield's Ultra Safety Assurance (USA) trigger.



Specifications:

SPRINGFIELD ARMORY XD-S 3.3"

Caliber: .40 S&W • **Barrel:** 3.3 inches

OA Length: 6.3 inches • **Grip:** Polymer

Weight: 21 ounces (empty)

Sights: Fiber-optic front, white-dot rear

Action: Striker-fired • **Finish:** Black or Bi-Tone

Capacity: 6+1 • **MSRP:** \$599-699

The new XD-S offers 6+1 rounds of .40 S&W fire-power for backup carry.

spectively. Firing five-round groups off-hand in one-second intervals from 15 yards, the best five Hydra-Shok rounds grouped into 1.75 inches and the best five Sig Sauer V-Crown rounds landed within 1.2 inches, with two shots overlapping.

The entire line of XD models—including the XD-S and new Mod.2 pistols—has proven flawless in a variety of tests over the years, and this latest 4" Service Model is no different. It is dependable, accurate, very easy to disassemble for cleaning and as tough as a railroad spike for durability. With all of its standard features—there is virtually nothing left to upgrade—the 9mm XD Mod.2 4" Service Model adds another handgun to the Springfield line that presents an excellent option for on- and off-duty carry. For more information, visit springfield-armory.com or call 800-680-6866.

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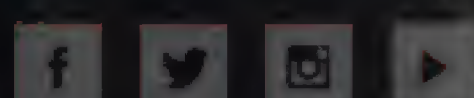
Our Enhanced Series of rifles make assembly fool-proof. With little to no experience needed, you'll have your next build finished in no time. And, you won't be cutting corners doing it. Simply insert your barrel, tighten the barrel nut, slide on your handguard, and tighten down the screws. No gas tube alignment or cumbersome fore-end mounts.

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M4E1
5.56 NATO : 300 BLK

M5E1
.308 WIN : 6.5 CREEDMOOR

ENHANCED UPPER RECEIVER ASSEMBLY

- STEP 1** Insert Barrel Assembly. The upper receiver aligns the gas tube for you!
- STEP 2** Tighten barrel nut.
- STEP 3** Slide handguard onto receiver and tighten 8 torx screws.

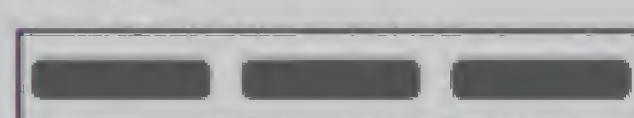
PICATINNY



KEYMOD



M-LOK



SHARPER REFLEXES

Red-dot sights for fast targeting in any environment.

BY RICHARD JOHNSON

Photo courtesy Trijicon

Few things have impacted a police officer's ability to put accurate rounds on target like the development of lightweight reflex sights.

Also called "red-dot optics" by many people, there are a variety of different technologies used to make these kinds of sights. Not all of the technologies are true reflex sights, but the implementation is similar enough that the engineering is largely invisible to the end-user. Holographic weapon sights are a form of sight that also falls into this category.

In general, reflex sights are non-magnifying and place a simple dot or other image in the shooter's field of view. There is no need to try to align iron sights with the target or transition to irons on a scoped gun when the target is close. Near or far, the bullet will strike wherever the dot is. The point of impact is still affected by bullet drop, of course. Many have called this the ultimate point-and-click interface.

Here are a number of reflex sights that you and your department may want to consider for your long guns. All are suitable for use on patrol rifles, while some are also good choices for mounting on shotguns.

AIMPOINT MICRO T-1



To many, Aimpoint is the standard by which other red-dot optics are judged.

The Micro T-1 is an excellent choice for a patrol rifle or shotgun due to its ruggedness, clear optics and features. Aimpoint offers the Micro T-1 with either a 2- or 4-MOA dot to match your needs. The integral Picatinny rail base allows for easy installation onto a long gun.

With the recoil-absorbing mount, the sight weighs less than 4 ounces, yet it is highly impact resistant and submersible to 25 meters. It has eight daytime settings and four night-vision-compatible settings. It offers 50,000 hours of continuous use. (aimpoint.com; 703-263-9795)



BURRIS FASTFIRE III

Long known for its riflescopes, Burris also makes a line of fast-targeting reflex sights. The FastFire III is one such example. Designed for use on rifles, shotguns and pistols, the FastFire III can be had with either a 3- or 8-MOA dot. Burris built in an automatic brightness sensor that keeps the aiming dot at an appropriate level as ambient lighting conditions change. Also, there are three manual brightness levels. The FastFire III has no magnification and uses multicoated optics to reduce glare and improve low-light performance. (burrisoptics.com; 970-356-1670)



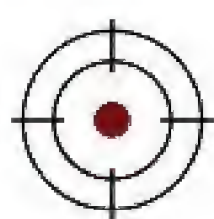
EOTECH 518

EOTech makes a large line of holographic weapon sights for police officers, military personnel and armed citizens. Many of these models have been deployed and successfully served in multiple armed conflicts in recent years. The 518 will run for 600 hours on standard alkaline AA batteries. It has control buttons on the side of the sight body so adjustments can be made with an EOTech magnifier in place. Optional battery caps can add visible and IR lasers to the unit. The 518 is submersible to 3 meters and weighs 13.8 ounces. A quick-release base comes standard on the 518. (eotechinc.com; 888-368-4656)



HARTMAN MH1

Developed by Mikey Hartman, who served in the Israeli Defense Forces as a commander for 20 years, the MH1 is a reflex sight designed with the needs of modern law enforcement officers and soldiers in mind. The sight is adjustable from both the unit and a remote switch. The reticle has 10 adjustment levels that include night-vision-compatible modes, and the reticle is completely invisible from the front of the gun. A built-in battery charges via a micro USB port and is backed up by a CR123 battery. Motion sensors power down and instantly activate when the gun is brought up to fire. (commandarms.com)



KINETIC CONCEALMENT RD-01

The new Kinetic Concealment RD-01 promises to bring rapid targeting to your rifle at a fraction of the price of other optics. The RD-01 uses a multicoated lens to improve optic clarity. Four levels of brightness are available for the red dot, and a single CR 2032 battery powers the unit. The RD-01's housing is made from 6061-T6 aluminum with a black anodized finish for durability. The RD-01 is compact at only 2 inches long, and it weighs 2.2 ounces with a battery. (kineticconcealment.com; 731-388-9693)

LEUPOLD LCO

The Leupold Carbine Optic, or LCO, is a no-magnification reflex sight built for officers running a modern patrol rifle like the AR-15. With 15 brightness settings, the dot can be quickly adjusted to contrast well against ambient lighting conditions. Lower levels of intensity are designed for night-vision compatibility. Leupold uses a 1-MOA for precise shots at close and long ranges. Adjustments are made in 0.5-MOA increments. A single CR123A battery will power the LCO for up to five years. The body of the unit is machined from 6061-T6 aluminum and is waterproof. (leupold.com; 800-538-7653)



LUCID HD7 GEN III

Made with a cast-aluminum frame and covered by a chemical-resistant rubber shell, the Lucid HD7 Gen III is a red-dot designed for hard duty. Tested with loads like the .458 SOCOM, the HD7 should provide an affordable 1X sighting system that is tough enough for most applications. Powered by a single AAA battery, the HD7 has seven brightness levels and an auto shutoff feature. The HD7 is waterproof, fogproof and weighs 13 ounces. Options include a 2X magnifier and a quick-detach mounting kit. (mylucidgear.com; 307-840-2160)

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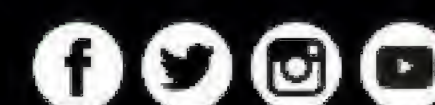
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SHARPER REFLEXES

MEPROLIGHT TRU-DOT RDS

Lightweight, the Meprolight Tru-Dot RDS optic uses a 1.8-MOA dot for precision aiming at all distances. The Tru-Dot RDS has four different brightness levels, plus it is compatible with Gen II and Gen III night-vision units. Additionally, it works well with a variety of magnifiers. It operates on a single AA battery that can provide thousands of hours of use. Built-in sensors allow the unit to shut off when not in use and instantly activate when needed. Meprolight seals the unit to make it dust, dirt and water resistant. An integrated Picatinny rail makes mounting very easy.

(themakogroup.com; 631-843-0490)



SIG SAUER ROMEO3

Sig Sauer designed the Romeo3 for a wide range of fighting guns, including patrol rifles, submachine guns, shotguns and even full-size duty pistols. A 3-MOA dot is used in conjunction with a special red notch reflector to provide a bright aiming point without obscuring the target in longer engagements. A total of 11 illumination levels are available, with two being night-vision compatible. SIG uses a motion sensor in the optic to automatically activate and turn off the unit to save battery power when stored. Waterproof, fogproof and shock resistant, the Romeo3 is also available with a 1.41-inch co-witness Quick-Detach riser mount. (sigoptics.com; 603-610-3000)

TRIJICON MRO

Trijicon is no stranger to building durable sights for the world's harshest environments, and the Miniature Rifle Optic (MRO) is a perfect example of the expertise and experience the company builds into its gear. The MRO has an ambidextrous brightness control, multiple night-vision-compatible intensities and will run constantly for five years on one tiny battery. Forged of rugged 7075-T6 aluminum, the MRO housing is built like a tank yet weighs roughly about four ounces. Additionally, the Trijicon MRO is sealed to keep out water down to thirty meters. (trijicon.com; 800-338-0563)



VORTEX VENOM

Designed for fast target acquisitions on both rifles and shotguns, the Vortex Venom is a red-dot optic that mounts quickly and offers a clear field of view. The 3-MOA dot is large enough for rapid targeting at close ranges but doesn't unnecessarily obscure the target at longer distances. The Venom body is machined from aluminum while the glass is multicoated for improved vision. The Venom is very light—a mere 1.1 ounces. A single CR1632 battery powers the unit and is replaceable without having to remove the optic from the gun. Vortex offers a fully transferable, unlimited, unconditional warranty on all of its products, which is about as good as you can get. (vortexoptics.com; 800-426-0048)

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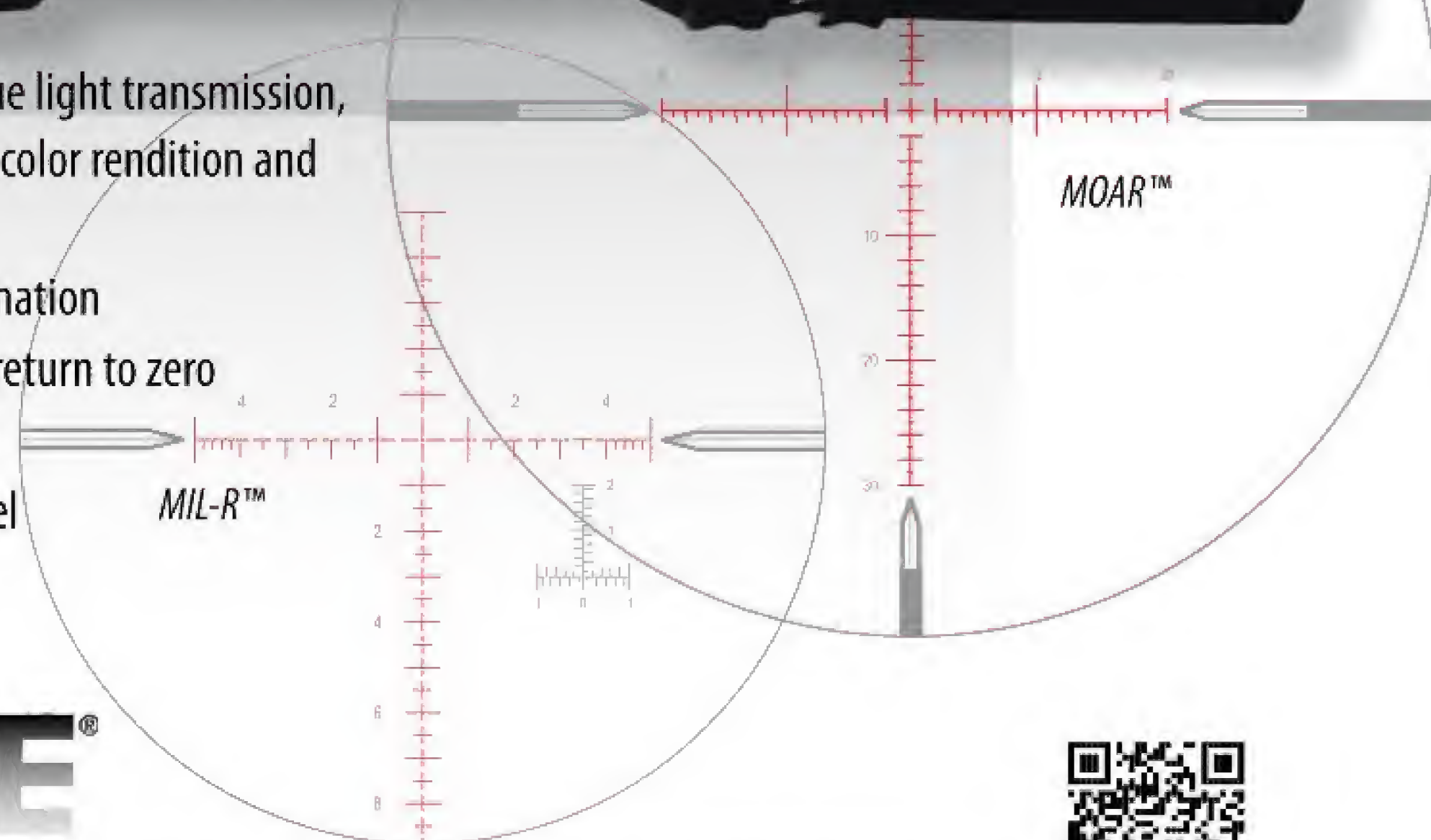
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BARRETT'S REC7 REBORN

A workhorse AR returns as a direct-impingement beast for tactical operators. **By Todd Burgreen**

It is nice to witness a product's evolution, especially when you have experience with the early models to better appreciate the modifications made.

The new Barrett REC7 DI (Direct Impingement) rifle is a great case in point. Barrett has taken its vision of the AR platform another step forward with its new direct-impingement rifle.

Interestingly, the REC7 DI is Barrett's fourth AR-pattern rifle. The first was the M468, which also employed a direct-impingement operating system and was discontinued from production. Then the original piston-driven REC7 was introduced in 2007 and the REC7 Gen II, still a piston-driven gun, was unveiled in 2013. Now, with the REC7 DI, AR owners will appreciate that Barrett decided to offer premium candidates in both the piston and DI genres.

Barrett is known for producing high-quality weapons that are accurate, rugged and reliable—like the Chris Barrett-designed MRAD and 98B—and the company turned its extreme attention to detail toward the REC7 DI. The rifle is available in 5.56mm NATO, 300 Blackout and 6.8 SPC. The 5.56mm and 6.8 SPC rifles are available with either 16- or 18-inch barrels, and a



The new REC7 DI carries on Barrett's reputation for quality and attention to detail in a direct-impingement package ready to tackle any mission. Shown with an Aimpoint Micro T-1.



DMR model is in the works. The 300 BLK models are available with 10- or 16-inch barrels. I recently tested a 5.56mm model with a 16-inch barrel.

The Barrett REC7 DI features upper and lower receivers that are machined from 7075-T6 aluminum and then hardcoat anodized. The 16-inch, free-floating, match-grade, stainless steel barrel comes equipped with a Chris Barrett-designed muzzle brake, while the barrel extension has M4 feed ramps. Barrett profiles and chambers its barrels in-house for tighter quality control and a smoother supply chain. The carbine has a specialized 5.56mm match

chamber that is similar to .223 Wylde specifications, essentially splitting the difference be-

tween .223 Remington and 5.56mm NATO dimensions to maximize the carbine's accuracy potential.

Within the upper is an enhanced bolt made from high-strength 9310 steel. The bolt is proofed and

magnetic-particle inspected to guarantee reliable performance. Along those same lines, Barrett gave the bolt carrier a nickel-boron coating to further enhance the reliability of the REC7 DI. Another enhancement is the BCM Gunfighter charging handle. While cheaper charging handles tend to twist, bend or lose a latch under hard use, the tank-tough BCM design can handle high-stress shooting.

My test REC7 DI arrived with a new Barrett Rail System (BRS) forend. This free-floating, low-profile handguard (also available as a standalone accessory) helps the 16-inch-barreled carbine maintain an unloaded weight less than 7 pounds, making it one of the lighter ARs on the market. The versatile handguard features a full-length Picatinny top rail,

KeyMod slots along the slides and bottom for mounting accessories like lights, lasers, foregrips and bipods, and numerous lightening cuts that also serve to help dissipate barrel heat. Under the handguard is a low-profile gas block that is machined from heat-treated tool steel and is lighter than standard gas blocks.

The lower receiver features standard AR controls, a single-stage ALG Defense Advanced Combat Trigger (ACT) and a collapsible Magpul MOE

“ All of the Barrett REC7 DI's features are intended for maximizing your effectiveness during a gunfight... ”

BARRETT REC7 DI

buttstock. The stock can be adjusted to six different length-of-pull positions, giving the REC7 DI an overall length of 32.5 inches with the stock collapsed and 35.75 inches with the stock fully extended. Finally, the upper and lower receivers are given a Cerakote finish that resists corrosion for long-term durability. My test rifle came in OD green, but black, tungsten gray and tan colors are also available.

ROUNDS DOWNRANGE

I tested the Barrett REC7 DI with approximately 600 rounds of Black Hills, Federal, Hornady and Winchester ammunition. To measure the carbine's accuracy, I used a Trijicon 1-6x24mm VCOG to fire three 5-shot groups with each ammunition type at 100 yards, then switched to a Trijicon MRO reflex sight for the remainder of the evaluation. The REC7 DI kept every five-shot group within 1.5 inches at 100 yards, with several loads producing sub-MOA groups out to the 300-yard berm at the Echo Valley Training Center (EVTC). This accuracy level justifies considering leaving a magnified optic such as the versatile Trijicon VCOG mounted on the REC7 DI. The velocity

BARRETT REC7 DI

SPECIFICATIONS

Caliber: 5.56mm NATO • **Barrel:** 16 inches

OA Length: 32.5-35.75 inches

Weight: 6.5 pounds (empty)

Stock: Magpul MOE • **Sights:** None

Action: Direct impingement semi-auto

Finish: Cerakote • **Capacity:** 30+1

MSRP: \$1,599

PERFORMANCE

Load	Velocity	Accuracy
Black Hills 69 Match	2,805	0.66
Federal 69 Gold Medal Match	2,778	0.50
Federal American Eagle 55 FMJ	3,080	0.90
Hornady 75 TAP	2,735	0.75
Winchester 55 FMJ	2,962	1.25

Bullet weight measured in grains, velocity in fps by chronograph, and accuracy in inches for best five-shot groups at 100 yards.

figures ranged from 2,700 to 3,000 fps over my RCBS chronograph.

Next, I installed the Trijicon MRO and sighted it in at 50 yards before taking



The rifle ran well with ammo from Black Hills, Federal, Hornady and Winchester.



The REC7 DI comes with a Magpul MOE pistol grip and stock for top-notch ergonomics and handling. The stock helps the rifle fit a variety of shooters.

Photo courtesy Barrett

“ With the REC7 DI, Barrett wanted to create a lightweight, easy-to-use AR that was similar to Eugene Stoner’s original concept—and it succeeded with flying colors. ”



the REC7 DI onto the EVTC's 360 and "Jungle Walk" ranges. Training scenarios involving team tactics along with patrolling to contact allowed the REC7 DI to shine in terms of potent firepower and accuracy. Firing from unorthodox positions while working around range vehicles showed why the lightweight Barrett REC7 DI and Trijicon MRO are such a good combination. The REC7 DI is easy to manipulate, and the MRO sight is not dependent on a specific eye relief distance to be effective in accurately placing rounds on target. The Trijicon MRO assisted in engaging targets at close distances with its easy-to-acquire red dot. The MRO's 2-MOA red dot makes it easier to engage multiple targets in rapid fire than with open sights, while at same time providing adequate accuracy out to a couple hundred yards on man-sized targets due to the red dot not obscuring the target.



The bolt (bottom) is made from high-strength 9310 steel before being coated for maximum durability, and the BCM Gunfighter charging handle (top) is another tank-tough feature.

A huge benefit of choosing an AR for use is the multitude of magazines available from various manufacturers. I have come to trust Brownells for my metal AR magazines and Magpul for polymer variants. Magpul's 40-round PMAG is

steadily growing as a favorite among the higher-capacity AR magazine variants due to its track record of performance involving multiple weapon reviews. Along these same lines, nearly every tactical webbing gear manufacturer in the U.S.

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BARRETT REC7 DI



The long, free-floating handguard provides plenty of space for an extended support-hand grip against barricades.

offers products to carry AR magazines, from chest rigs and vests to thigh rigs and belt pouches. Go-to brands are U.S. Palm, High Speed Gear, Velocity Systems and BlackHawk. I tested the REC7 DI while wearing a bandoleer-style pouch from BlackHawk. It will appeal to many because of its ability to accommodate two pistol magazines in conjunction with four AR magazines. The BlackHawk bandolier can be grabbed in a hurry and slung over your shoulder while also grabbing the Barrett REC7 DI. For law enforcement, four spare magazines (plus one in the REC7 DI) should be enough to solve most issues that would call for an AR in the first place.

LIGHT STRIKER

With the REC7 DI, Barrett wanted to create a lightweight, easy-to-use AR that was similar to Eugene Stoner's original concept—and it succeeded with flying colors. All of the Barrett REC7 DI's features are intended for maximizing your effectiveness during a gunfight or realistic training on the range.

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AUG A3 M1 Rifle

The new multi-configurable AUG A3 M1 variant of the Steyr's venerable bullpup platform marks the introduction of MUD and the return of OD Green to its stock color options and adds new features like a front Quick-Disconnect Sling Swivel to classic characteristics like the quick-detach 16-inch barrel and battle-proven short-stroke gas-piston operation. It is available in Short-Rail, High-Rail and Integrated Optic versions with either a 1.5X or 3X scope. At 28.15 inches, Y SBR?

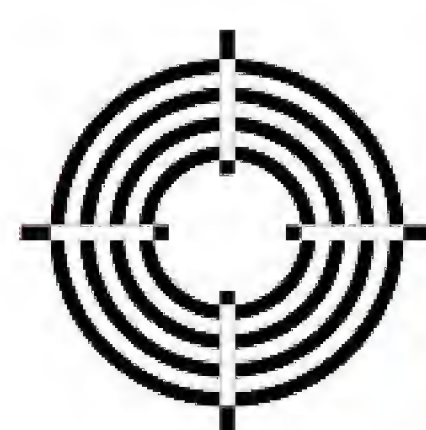


L-A1 Pistol

Featuring a full-length slide, 4.5-inch cold-hammer-forged barrel and 17-round magazine capacity for its 9x19mm Luger chambering and 12 rounds for .40 S&W, the new L-A1 service pistol was designed for the serious shooter to serve the dual role of a duty and sporting handgun. With its comfortable ergonomics, a remarkably low bore axis, a crisp short-reset trigger, extreme reliability and amazing accuracy, the L-A1 is the perfect partner on the range and off.

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BARRETT REC7 DI



The sides and bottom of the handguard are designed to accept KeyMod accessories or short rails.

The key component in a fighting rifle is reliability. No matter how accurate or powerful a rifle is, if it does not work 100 percent of the time, it is a liability. To this end, the REC7 DI ran flawlessly during testing. This carbine is intended for serious practitioners who plan on using it for patrolling, training or self-defense. Years of experience and dozens of training courses have given me strong opinions in terms of what constitutes an effective fighting rifle. A lightweight, fast-handling AR that offers plenty of firepower would be just the ticket, and the Barrett REC7 DI is a great choice to fill such a role. For more information, visit barrett.net or call 615-896-2938.

The Barrett Rail System (BRS) forend helps keep the rifle balanced and lightweight. Also note the muzzle brake.



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- Can be mounted in reverse angle to increase control when grabbing handguard and grip
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- Forward rake gives positive retention when using "C-clamp" method of handguard support, works as a rest for supported firing positions
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- Small profile, textured front and back for positive engagement
- Innovative patent pending attachment method allows for robust clamping and alignment with minimal hardware and accessory size
- Made in the U.S.A. from high quality, impact resistant polymers
- Available in Black, Flat Dark Earth, Foliage Green and Wolf Gray

BCMGUNFIGHTER KAG-KM - KeyMod Version \$18.95

BCMGUNFIGHTER KAG-1913 - Picatinny Rail Version \$19.95

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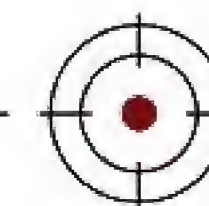


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TWO-WHEELED ENFORCERS

Today's motorcycles offer cops more power and speed than ever before.



Jeff Goldberg photo

Police motorcycle units are often assigned to escort duties because of their nimble handling.

BY DONALD J. MIHALEK

When Jon and Ponch jumped on their Kawasaki C-Series motorcycles and chased criminals around the Los Angeles area in the TV show *CHiPs*, one thing was clear: The motorcycles made their pursuits faster and easier, especially in traffic-prone LA.

Motorcycles have been used in police work since the early 1900s. Purpose-built police motorcycles used primarily for traffic enforcement and escort duties have a long history. Many departments around the country have laid claim to being the first to use motorcycles as patrol vehicles. Harley-Davidson credits Detroit, Michigan, with being the first purchaser of police motorcycles in 1908. The Evanston, Illinois, Police Department says it purchased a belt-driven motorcycle for its first motor unit in 1908, and the Port-

land, Oregon, Police Bureau had a police officer who used his personal motorcycle to patrol the city as early as 1909. According to the Berkeley, California, Police Department, Chief August Vollmer is credited with organizing the first official police motorcycle patrol in the United States in 1911.

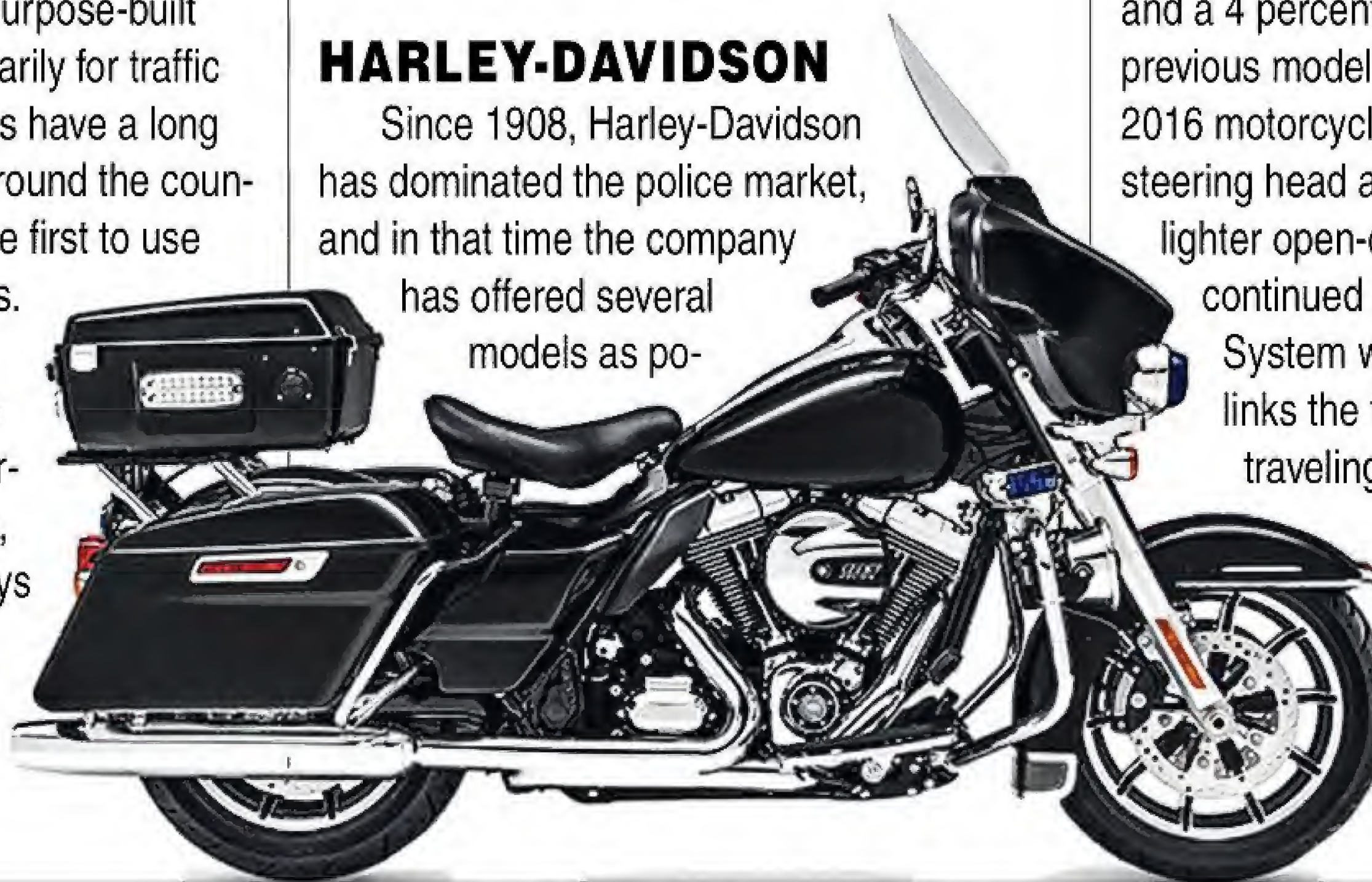
Due to their dependability, some consistent makes have been used throughout the history of police motorcycles. These include well-known names like Harley-Davidson, Kawasaki and BMW as well as Honda and Victory.

HARLEY-DAVIDSON

Since 1908, Harley-Davidson has dominated the police market, and in that time the company has offered several models as po-

lice motorcycles. For 2016, Harley-Davidson is offering the Electra Glide, Road King and XL 883L in police configurations.

According to Harley-Davidson, all of the company's 2016 police motorcycles provide maximum value for agencies, with some of the lowest initial purchase costs for police motorcycles along with the lowest ongoing maintenance costs in the industry. The 2016 Electra Glide Police is powered by a 1,690cc High Output Twin Cam 103 engine, which adds a 6 percent increase in horsepower and a 4 percent increase in torque over previous model years. Additionally, the 2016 motorcycles feature a 29-degree steering head angle and a changeover to a lighter open-concept wheel. Harley also continued with its Reflex Linked Brake System with ABS, which electronically links the front and rear brakes when traveling over 25 mph for better stop-



Harley-Davidson is offering three police-specific models for 2016, including the Electra Glide (shown).

Jeff Goldberg photo

GUNFIGHTERS

SOME COMPANIES HAVE SHOOTING TEAMS



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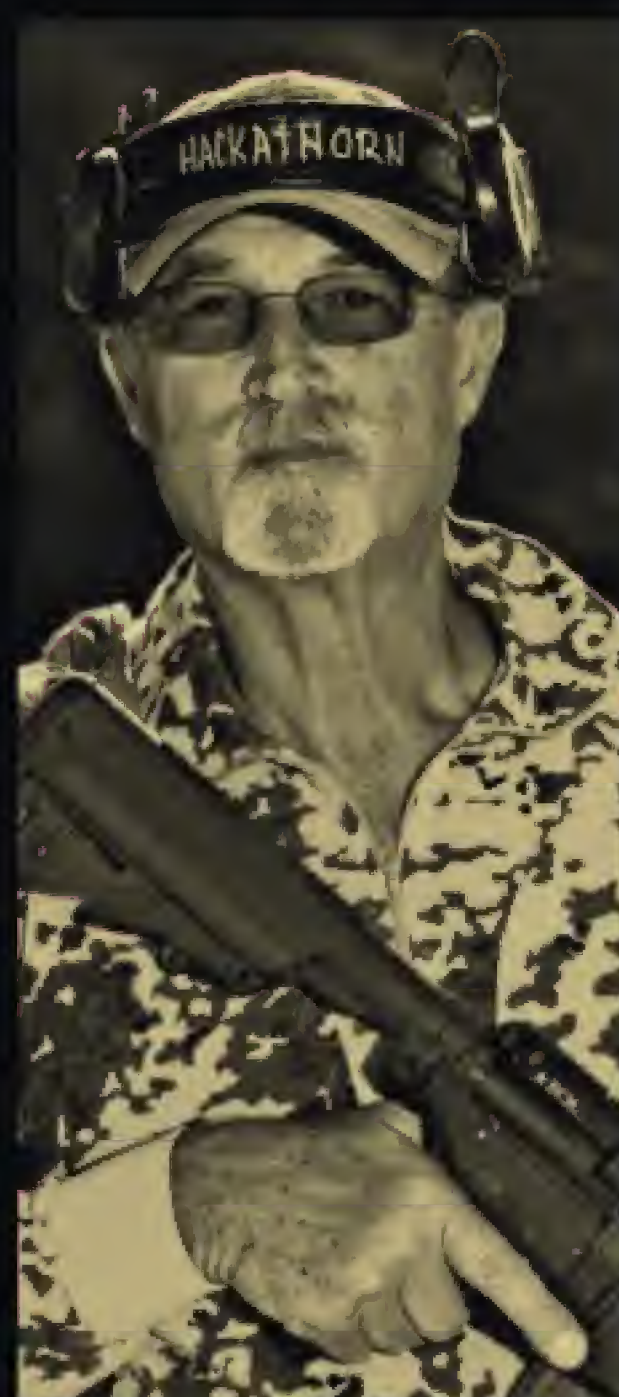
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TWO-WHEELED ENFORCERS



Victory (left) and BMW (right) offer quality motorcycles with powerful engines and several safety features to protect their police officers.

ping, and unlinking them at slower speeds to allow for more control and refined maneuvering.

The redesigned hand control system features speed capture, cruise control and push-to-talk functions—all with one-touch buttons. The emergency lights can all be controlled independently. "Stealth mode" even allows all exterior lights (except instruments and brakes) to be turned off in order to preserve the element of surprise. The Road King offers dual halogen lamps with a 1,570-lumen high beam, and the Electra Glide has patented Daymaker LED headlights, with a viewing area that is extra wide to illuminate any surrounding areas.

BMW'S BIKES

The BMW line of motorcycles for police use includes the new R 1200 RT-P, which uses a new boxer air/water-cooled engine producing 125 horsepower and 92 foot-pounds of torque. The engine four-stroke twin engine features a double overhead camshaft and wet sump lubrication. The electronic throttle control provides precise throttle management and reduces the throttle twist rotation to 70 degrees, with no wear or adjustment needed due to the electronic

throttle actuator system.

The R 1200 RT-P also has a new emergency lighting system that provides four times the forward intensity of the prior model, enclosed takedown lights and alley lights that

provide exceptional illumination, plus an alternating wig-wag function to maximize visibility. In short, all of the R 1200 RT-P's innovations have made it quite in demand in the U.S. and elsewhere around the world.

VICTORY ON PATROL

One of the newest American motorcycle manufacturers is Victory, which is based out of Tucson, Arizona. Victory offers its police motorcycles in its Commander series. The drive train of both Commander models come standard with 106-cubic-inch V-Twin engines offering 97 horsepower and 119 foot-pounds of torque. The engines come with six-speed, true-overdrive, constant-mesh transmissions with carbon-fiber-reinforced drive belts. The frame has a patented, air-adjustable, rear mono-shock design; inverted front forks; and the lowest seat height on the market. All of this combines for a nimble, lightweight, responsive and fast-handling machine. Several lighting options are available, with rearward-, front- and side-facing lights.

ELECTRIC MOTORCYCLES

With today's technological advances and environmental concerns, electric motor-

cycle companies have begun starting up and offering police models, including the Victory's Empulse TT electric motorcycle as well as the Zero SP, the Zero DSP and the Zero FXP.

Generally, these electric motorcycles are lower in cost than traditional gasoline-powered models and have less ongoing maintenance needs, though they have less range. Typically they have a range of less than 189 city and highway miles and take about seven hours to gain a full charge through a typical wall outlet. Of course, specialized equipment will bring the charge time down by several hours, and newer models are going farther than ever before. These electric motorcycles are currently being tested for law enforcement use and offer an option for departments in search of new bikes.

Cruisers and SUVs may be the most visible police vehicles, but motorcycles continue to patrol and enforce traffic laws with superior handling and speed. With advances in technology, these steadfast workhorses are only getting better and better for law enforcement use.

CONTACT:

BMW

bmwmotorcycles.com

Brammo

brammo.com;
541-494-0823

Harley-Davidson

harley-davidson.com

Victory Motorcycles

victorypolicebikes.com;
520-770-9500

Zero Motorcycles

zeromotorcycles.com;
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The Victory Empulse TT is an all-electric motorcycle that can go 120 city miles without recharging.



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NEW TACTICAL

By Fred Mastison

Each year, members of the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) gather to share information and improve policing worldwide. This year, the IACP conference was held in Chicago and drew chiefs from around the world, including Africa, Asia, Europe and the U.S. The prestige and seriousness of this yearly gathering was exemplified when President Obama took time to attend the conference and speak to the members.

This is the largest event of its kind and includes training sessions, discussion boards as well as a complete section dedicated to products for the law enforcement community. Unlike other trade shows, this one is very specific in its clients and the products are focused on that world. With that in mind, we would like to share with you some of the more interesting items found at this year's IACP.



ATS ARMOR

ATS Armor designs and manufactures its products to exceed the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) 0101.06 standard. All of the company's torso plates are 9.75 by 12 inches and are shaped into ATS' patent-pending QuadCurve design, ensuring maximum comfort and fit. Most notably, ATS' entire product line of body armor is stand alone—no additional protection is needed to defeat the specified threat. (atsarmor.com; 602-344-9337)

GEAR

Cutting-edge solutions from the International Association of Chiefs of Police expo.

CELOX-A

Bleeding from severe injuries such as gunshot wounds, stab-bings or blasts can be very difficult to stop. Celox-A is a unique hemostat applicator delivery system pre-packed with Celox granules and designed to get through a small entry or exit wound, directly to the bleeding site in just a few seconds. (celoxmedical.com)



DASCO WEAPONS STORAGE

Dasco has introduced a unique locking gun cabinet that provides two layers of protection. First is a cage-style door that is covered by a steel roller door, which completely hides everything inside. This provides security as well as concealability. Modular in design, the cabinets can be configured to store handguns, longs gun and any mix that you may choose. (dascostorage.com)



EDGE TACTICAL ACID GAMBIT KITS

Edge Tactical has introduced a new line of eyewear that includes everything the end-user needs. From their ballistic-rated frames to multiple lens options, the Acid Gambit kits are a great way to package these high-quality glasses. The patent-pending frames are made from matte black nylon with soft TPR temple tips for comfort. The kits include a lens cleaning bag, a hard case, a gummy leash and two pairs of lenses. (edgeeyewear.com; 866-953-7325)





HOGUE ARS STAGE 2

Hogue has introduced a new Level 2 duty rig for law enforcement, the ARS Stage 2. It utilizes Hogue's new thumb-drive lock as well as a traditional hood. Made of a durable material and built with Hogue's standard for craftsmanship, it is destined to be a part of many officers' loadouts. Tactical black and CF Weave versions are available for several gun models. (hogueinc.com; 800-438-4747)



INADO LE BICYCLE MOUNT

The INADO Law Enforcement Bicycle Mounting platform, in conjunction with the INADO Blac-Rac Model 1076, is the ultimate weapons retention system for your patrol bicycle. It significantly enhances a bicycle officer's ability to engage threats with mobility and quick deployment when equipped with a vital and effective weapon. (blac-rac.com; 800-528-8040)

“ Unlike other trade shows, this one is very specific in its clients and the products are focused on that world. ”

SES AUTOMATIC INJURY DETECTION

The SES Automatic Injury Detection (AID) system is the first wearable active sensor technology that can automatically request help without human assistance. The sensors, which are easy to pair with body armor, can be installed inside the carrier. Once the sensor's circuit is broken, an emergency signal is sent to a command post or medical terminal. This is critical in the event the person is incapacitated. (selectengineering.net; 631-561-3161)



SIGHTMARK ULTRA SHOT M-SPEC

Featuring a digital switch control with six variable brightness levels for daytime use and six settings in night-vision mode, the new Sightmark Ultra Shot M-Spec reflex sight is built for use in any shooting environment. Its magnesium alloy housing offers exceptional durability. The CR2 battery provides up to 1,000 hours of use. The device features a protective hood that shields it from impact and a shockproof frame for up to .50-caliber recoil. Fully submersible up to 40 feet of water, the Ultra Shot M-Spec is equipped with dual-pane glass and a parallax-corrected lens system. (sightmark.com; 817-225-0310)



STRONGSUIT QSERIES GLOVES

StrongSuit's QSeries Enforcer gloves are unique in that they are form-fitted with pre-curved fingers for the ultimate in fit and performance. They include a Velcro wrist closure and a carabiner attachment for simplicity. StrongSuit's TAC-Sense palm material is also included, making it easy to use touchscreens and other devices while wearing the gloves. Several colors and styles are available. (strongsuitgloves.com; 864-252-7786)



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NEW TACTICAL GEAR



SWAT-TOURNIQUET

The SWAT-Tourniquet, or SWAT-T, is a must-have item for law enforcement and military personnel. It is a unique and multipurpose dressing [or trauma tool], named for how it is applied "Stretch, Wrap and Tuck." It has the ability to serve both as a tourniquet as well as a compression bandage. Lightweight and cost effective, it is a great item for any kit. (swat-t.com; 877-931-6862)

TROY M7A1 PDW STOCK KIT

Troy has introduced its M7A1 PDW Stock Kit, which allows carbines to be taken down 3 inches shorter than traditional stocks. Utilizing a proprietary, patent-pending spring, bolt carrier system and heavy-duty latch assembly, the refined design makes the M7A1 PDW Stock Kit rugged, reliable and compact. The design of the rods in the Troy PDW stock allows full access to operating features, even with a gloved hand and when the stock is completely retracted. After depressing a lever on the underside of the stock, the stock can be extended in one fluid motion. Troy's stock has six positions of adjustment and built-in sling mounts. (worldoftroy.com; 866-788-6412)



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 GUN TEST

NEWEST MVP

Mossberg's lightweight MVP-LC strikes like lightning and brings 7.62mm thunder.

By David Bahde

The police precision rifle realm has changed considerably in the last few years. When I became a police marksman over 15 years ago, most of the rifles for the task were simple, reasonably accurate and relatively affordable. Custom rifles were rare or non-existent in most agencies. You just did not see many agencies or officers with more than \$2,000 to spend on a rifle, a figure that covers the cost of some stocks these days. It's a different world thanks to increased precision rifle popularity, especially from the competition world. Rifles are more complicated, heavier, more rugged and incredibly expensive.

Long-range competitions are thriving today. They're fun, and most of these events have competitors shooting out to 1,200 yards, with many shots between

300 and 800 yards. But most officers will seldom have to engage threats at 100 yards let alone 1,200 on a deployment. Police marksmen still deploy at around 60 yards on average. Beyond observation and cover duties, their target is probably moving, likely behind glass, and they only get one shot.

For this sort of work, some might feel the need to get a 14-pound rifle with a \$4,000 scope, or night vision, but most agencies simply can't afford them. If your agency has the ability to get all this stuff, then fantastic! I wish every police marksman could have the most advanced equipment out there, but that is just not reality. So the question is, do you need it or can you do the job with less?

Simple can be better, and companies are starting to build rifles that will get the job done without breaking the

bank. One such rifle is the new Light Chassis (LC) in the Mossberg Varmint Predator (MVP) series.

MVP SPECS

Mossberg's bolt-action MVP rifles are very popular, with both 5.56mm and 7.62mm NATO models. The 5.56mm models are designed to feed from standard AR-style mags, while the 7.62mm rifles can use LR308/SR-25-style mags as well as M1A/M14-style mags. (The one exception is the MVP LC 7.62mm rifles, which only feed the LR308/SR-25 style mags, due to chassis style). Several variants are available for both chamberings, with various stock options, barrel lengths, accessories and more for specific missions. The new LC models feature MDT LSS aluminum chassis.



Mossberg's tack-driving MVP-LC is available as part of a ready-for-duty package with a Vortex 4-16x44mm Viper HS-T scope and a Caldwell bipod.

Mossberg's 5.56mm MVP-LC rifles come with 16.25-inch barrels, while 7.62mm models sport 18.5-inch barrels. Each fluted, medium-weight barrel is threaded and comes equipped with a SilencerCo Saker Trifecta muzzle brake that also serves as a mounting adaptor for mounting a Saker sound suppressor.

The smooth, light LSS chassis system is made from 6061-T6 billet aluminum. It features V-shaped bedding and a free-floating forend for enhanced accuracy. The chassis was also designed with an AR-style buffer tube to utilize collapsible AR-15 buttstocks, and Mossberg includes the Magpul CTR for the MVP-LC. Out front, you can mount rails or a sling stud for attaching a bipod.

On top of the action you'll notice a Picatinny rail for mounting optics. The MVP-LC also features Mossberg's Light-

ning Bolt Action (LBA) trigger, which is adjustable from 3 to 7 pounds. An oversized bolt knob controls the MVP-LC's fluted bolt. A push-button bolt release is in a location similar to a typical AR's.

The MVP-LC can be ordered as a standalone rifle or as a complete package including a Vortex 4-16x44mm Viper HS-T scope and a Caldwell bipod. I tested a 7.62mm MVP-LC/Vortex HS-T combo that also came with a 20-round PMAG. My SilencerCo Saker 762 suppressor fit perfectly over the Trifecta muzzle brake that came installed on the 18.5-inch barrel. Everything came mounted and ready to go right out of the box.

RANGE PERFORMANCE

One range day consisted of measuring the MVP-LC's accuracy out to 900 yards. I also set up paper targets at 100,

300 and 500 yards. Another day was spent putting the MVP-LC through some more common police-related scenarios. Right out of the box, the scoped rifle was very close to zeroed with 168-grain ammunition. My first shots were within 4 inches of the point of aim at 100 yards, shooting at an elevation of 5,500 feet with 20 percent humidity and temperatures in the 90-degree range.

The Vortex HST is a solid little scope. The glass was clear, the reticle easy to see and the knobs easy to use. For the long-range shooting, I used Barnes' new 175-grain OTM ammunition, which has proven to be incredibly accurate—especially in the MVP-LC. Five-shot groups at 300 yards measured inside 2 inches, with four rounds often clustering inside 1.5 inches. Not much changed at 500 yards, with my best group measuring

MOSSBERG MVP-LC



The top rail made it easy to install the Vortex 4-16x44mm Viper HS-T riflescope that was included in the package.

During testing, the smooth-operating MVP-LC ran flawlessly with various ammunition types at medium and long range.

between 2.5 and 3.5 inches. That's pretty impressive. There wasn't much wind, which helped quite a bit, but the MVP-LC remained very accurate.

Moving out to 900 yards, the wind became more of an issue, so it took some

time to get things dialed in. Since this was a test of the rifle, I adjusted for the wind in the scope. Once I established the windage and elevation, I fired a 10-shot group as fast as I could get back on target. All said and done, the group

measured right around 8.5 inches, which is still under 1 MOA. Moving back to 100 yards, the best five-shot group measured 0.78 inches at 100 yards with the Barnes ammo. Every other group was right around an inch, which is more than acceptable for police use.

Moving around the range to practice deployment scenarios, the MVP-LC proved very handy and plenty accurate. Taking shots from 50 to 100 yards from barricades and other supported positions, it was possible to take a first shot and keep follow-ups inside a 1-inch circle. None of my groups from kneeling were outside 3 inches. My department's qualifications include kneeling and seated positions, and the MVP-LC is a joy to shoot in these conditions, even with the suppressor attached. All of this testing was done using Hornady's 155-grain TAP A-MAX ammunition, my last deployment round in .308 Winchester.

ALWAYS ON TARGET

It can be hard to spot hits out to 1,000 yards away even with spotting scopes. But one new product can really help you dial in at extreme distances.

The TargetVision LR1 Long-Range Wireless Spotting Scope consists of a remote camera encased in a rugged, water-resistant housing, and a receiver. Place the camera about 10 to 15 feet from the target and, once synced to software on your phone, tablet or laptop, you'll get a clear picture of the target. Move the receiver with you back to the rifle, and you'll be set up to watch and track hits without needing to move downrange to check your shots. It's easy to set this system up, and its 16-plus-hour run time will get you through the day with ease. The iOS and Android software allows for multiple viewers, a live camera view and shot tracking, recognition and numbering. You can also record snapshots of your targets.

I used the LR1 while testing the Mossberg MVP-LC, which made it an easy day on the range shooting out to 900 yards. The camera's picture was very clear, allowing me to precisely work out the proper elevation holds. The tracking features are nice, and the LR1 allowed me to save the session for future use. It only took a minute to take everything down when I was all done, and everything fits in a hard case for transport.

In short, this system will definitely see a ton of use during my precision rifle training and upcoming long-range rifle tests. (targetvisioncam.com; 281-205-8134) —David Bahde



The LR1 Long-Range Wireless Spotting Scope comes in a hard case and syncs up wirelessly with your smartphone or tablet.



The MDT LSS chassis leaves the barrel free-floating for enhanced precision downrange. Note the forend lightening cuts.

Over two days of testing, I was able to work in five cold-bore shots. The first two of each day were clean, while the others were fouled from as little as 10 to as many as 40 rounds. I completed three-shot follow-up groups, and they all ended up inside an inch relative to the cold-bore shots. The clean cold-bore shots were the widest—as much as 0.5 inches from the groups—

MOSSBERG MVP-LC/ VORTEX HS-T COMBO

SPECIFICATIONS

Caliber: 7.62mm NATO
Barrel: 18.5 inches
OA Length: 37.75 inches
Weight: 10 pounds (empty)
Stock: Magpul CTR
Sights: Vortex 4-16x44mm Viper HS-T
Action: Bolt • **Finish:** Matte blued, tan
Capacity: 10+1 • **MSRP:** \$2,102

PERFORMANCE

Load	Velocity	Accuracy
Barnes 175 OTM	2,450	0.78
Black Hills 155 A-MAX	2,700	0.87
Federal 168 Gold Medal Match	2,452	0.90
Hornady 155 TAP	2,675	0.85

Bullet weight measured in grains, velocity in fps by chronograph, and accuracy in inches for best five-shot groups at 100 yards.

and fouled shots were the closest. This kind of consistency more than meets any reasonable accuracy criteria, and the MVP-LC was more accurate than some of my custom rifles from years past.

If you are looking for a rifle to attach goodies that add up to more than most officers' salaries, this isn't it. The MVP-LC is minimalist by design. There is no room for the \$10,000 laser, \$14,000

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MOSSBERG MVP-LC



Mossberg equips the MVP-LC with an adjustable, polymer Magpul CTR stock.

NVD or even some of the \$40,000 thermal sights. You can add a scope, a light or laser and a bipod. But if you want simple, repeatable accuracy to take that one shot under most conditions, the MVP-LC will certainly do it.

Most of the testing was completed using a 10-round PMAG, but it ran with the 20-rounders along with some magazines from LaRue Tactical, DPMS, Lancer and Brownells. The bolt was smooth, fast and easy to manipulate. While the bolt would hold open after the last round, a firm push forward slides the bolt over the top for single feeding. The safety operates like that of the Remington 700 that many are used to, and the bolt release is on the top-left side.

This was my first time using the LBA trigger, and it was very nice. Adjusted to about 4 pounds, my test rifle's trigger was crisp with very little creep. Once I got used to it, this trigger allowed for some very solid accuracy and, above all, remained predictable throughout.

The Vortex HS-T was more than adequate for most simple duty uses. The knobs are easy to read, tactical and reset to zero. Simple MRAD reticles are fine for most police work, and the glass was very clear with no yellowish tint. With a 44mm objective, the scope stays nice and close to the rifle and remains lightweight.

This is a fantastic, capable rifle. It's perfect as a lightweight varmint hunter, and it's certainly usable for police marksmen. If you are in the market for either, make sure you check out the MVP-LC. For more information, visit mossberg.com or call 203-230-5300.



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SAFER SEARCHES

Tactics for finding weapons and contraband—because your life depends on it!

BY KEVIN R. DAVIS

Incident 1: A dope dealer from Detroit arrives at a Midwestern city to sling his crack cocaine. Arrested for warrants and assault on a police officer, he is handcuffed and searched prior to being loaded into a police transport wagon and taken to the local jail. After removing the handcuffs, the deputy sheriff working the booking area of the jail conducts a detailed search and detects a pocket the doper had sewn into his boxer shorts, between the legs. In this pocket, the deputy finds a fully loaded semi-auto handgun.

Incident 2: A subject resists being arrested for receiving stolen property after he stops while astride a stolen motorcycle. Pepper sprayed and handcuffed behind his back by two officers, he is placed into the backseat of a police SUV. An officer attempts a cursory pat-down but does not complete the search. Once alone in the backseat, the suspect quickly moves his handcuffed hands

under his feet to the front of his body and accesses a small handgun in his left front pants pocket. Firing through a rear window, the suspect dives out. Now armed and presenting a deadly threat, the felon attempts to flee and is quickly shot by the officers.

Incident 3: A suspect is arrested after a shooting on a public street. Arrested and handcuffed behind his back, he is transported to the police station and placed in the detective bureau holding room, where his handcuffs are removed.

As soon as the detective walks away, the suspect reaches into his front waistband and pulls out a full-sized 1911, cocks the hammer and fires a bullet into his own head. The detective walks back into the

room and says, "Nobody shook him." In other words, no officer searched the suspect.

All three incidents ended with officers completing the number one rule of law enforcement: making it home at the end of their shift. But in all three, it was accomplished only by luck. Had the armed men decided another course of action, officers could have easily been killed.

FOLLOW THE RULES

There are some basic rules of frisking and searching you must follow:

1. If the suspect is under arrest, handcuff them first, then search them.
2. Search the suspect like your life depends on it, because it does.
3. Don't be sloppy. Sloppy searches can and do kill law enforcement officers.
4. Live by the "plus one" rule: If you find one weapon or piece of contraband, always search for more. There is always one more thing you're missing.

Officers cannot pat down or frisk every suspect they come into contact with on the street. A "Terry stop," as defined by the courts, is based on articulable, reasonable suspicion that a crime has been, is being or is about to be committed, and that the suspect is involved. Based on reasonable suspicion, the suspect can be

Making a suspect interlace their hands behind their head leaves them off-balance at the rear.



forcefully detained if they do not voluntarily comply. During a Terry stop, a Terry frisk—a pat-down of only the outer garments for weapons—may be necessary based on the totality of the circumstances if the officer comes to believe that the suspect may have a weapon on his or her person. During a Terry frisk, an officer cannot insert his hand into pockets or rearrange exterior clothing unless something is observed or felt which may be a weapon.

If the officer asks for and receives consent to search from the suspect, even if he has reasonable suspicion to conduct a Terry frisk, the officer can reach into pockets and search inside outer garments, such as coats or jackets, as long as he does not venture into strip searching (looking into or rearranging undergarments such as brassieres and clothing covering the genitals or breasts).

In some cases, such as confronting suspects believed to have shot someone or reported to be a suspect in a crime of violence like an armed robbery, the suspects may be challenged by officers at gunpoint, handcuffed and then patted down for weapons (a Terry frisk).

If during a Terry frisk or a search with consent an officer sees or feels a weapon or piece of contraband concealed or partially concealed, they should alert other officers, handcuff the suspect and then retrieve the evidence. If, for instance, an officer is conducting a search with consent and feels what he believes is a gun, even if the handgun is inside the suspect's boxer shorts in actions which would otherwise be known as a strip search, exigent circumstances exist to handcuff them and then retrieve and secure the gun. If a bag of contraband, such as crack cocaine, is felt in the crack of the suspect's buttocks or in their groin area, the suspect should be handcuffed and a strip search authorization received from a supervisor prior to retrieval. A strip search is not a cavity search, which can only be conducted by a physician or proper medical personnel. (Note: State laws differ when it comes to strip searches. Officers are advised to contact their police legal advisors for specific legal advice and direction.)

CONTROL TECHNIQUES

While conducting Terry frisks or searches with consent, stay away from "prop searches," where suspects are advised to "assume the position" and put their hands on the trunk, hood or roof of a vehicle, or on a wall, and the



Having a suspect interlace their hands behind their back offers more control but is more difficult and takes more practice to master.

officer pats them down with little to no control. Wall or prop searches actually afford the suspect more stability or "base" than that of the officer. Placed in this position, a suspect can escape or attack simply by grabbing the officer's hand and turning violently, pitching the lawman into the wall or car.

Two techniques offer more control than the outdated prop search.

1. Fingers interlaced behind the head:

In this technique the suspect is ordered to place their hands behind their head and interlace their fingers. They are told to spread their legs and point their toes to the outside. Once the officer grabs control of the fingers, the suspect is off-balance to the rear. Starting at the head and overlapping to each side of their midline, the (Please turn to page 94)

SETCAN PAT-DOWN PROPS

It has always been a drag to find simulated weapons or contraband with which to train officers in searching or frisking techniques. Real items (box cutters, folding knives, guns) expose trainees to risks. Even if polymer, non-firing replica guns are used, the cost is high. Jim Boydd has developed a low-cost alternative for police and court officer training: Pat Down Props that are sold through Setcan.

These yellow, molded-plastic training props simulate 16 pieces of weapons or contraband per package. Everything is offered—from a cell phone, a folded pocket-knife, a marijuana pipe, brass knuckles, a small semi-auto pistol and revolver, to a plastic hypodermic needle, a razor blade and more. These items can be concealed on trainees or role-players during training sessions. My own experience as an instructor while teaching frisking and searching is that if props are secreted on role-players and punishment (in our case, push-ups) are meted out for failure to find the simulated contraband, then the cadet will focus a little more intently on trying to find the simulated weapons, criminal tools, drugs or paraphernalia. This translates well to the street, where death may result from poorly conducted searches.

MORE USES: The Pat-Down Props come complete with aluminum tape that can be affixed to points on the contraband where metal is attached. This allows court and transport officers to train with metal detector wands. Using my Metal-Tec street metal detector, which vibrates when passed over a metallic object, each one of the items could be located, including the simulated hypodermic needle. The Pat-Down Props could also be used to train officers or security personnel assigned to X-ray scanners at police stations or courthouses.

Setcan's Pat-Down Props are available in a single 16-piece package, a double package with 32 pieces and an academy package with 64 pieces. (setcan.com; 866-353-5055) —Kevin R. Davis



12 LAST-

Compact pistols and revolvers
that'll have your back—
NO MATTER WHAT!

By Richard Johnson

Sean Utley photo



BERETTA NANO

Beretta started with a clean slate when it designed the Nano. Sleek, thin and

SPECIFICATIONS

CALIBER: 9mm

BARREL: 3 inches

OA LENGTH: 5.63 inches

WEIGHT: 19.8 ounces (empty)

GRIP: Polymer

SIGHTS: Three-dot

ACTION: Striker-fired

FINISH: Black, pink or
Flat Dark Earth

CAPACITY: 6+1

MSRP: \$450-650

compact, the Nano offers seven rounds of 9mm in a snag-free platform. Utilizing a serialized subchassis, an officer can swap the polymer frame easily if needed. Beretta designed the gun with a reversible magazine release to accommodate left-handed shooters. While the three-dot sights are quite large for a subcompact pistol, Beretta also offers the gun with an integral Crimson Trace laser. (beretta.com)



FN5-9 COMPACT

A compact version of the company's popular full-sized pistol, the FN5-9 Compact is a striker-fired gun using a polymer frame that is adjustable for hand fit. The gun is fully ambidextrous and can be had with or without an external thumb safety. While compact enough to be carried on a vest, this gun may be too large for many people to carry on the ankle. However, it is a solid pistol and deserving of consideration if it will fit your size requirements. FNH USA also offers .40-caliber versions. (fnhusa.com; 703-288-3500)

SPECIFICATIONS

CALIBER: 9mm

BARREL: 3.6 inches

OA LENGTH: 6.7 inches

WEIGHT: 23.4 ounces (empty)

GRIP: Polymer

SIGHTS: Three-dot

ACTION: Striker-fired

FINISH: Matte black

CAPACITY: 12+1

MSRP: \$599

DITCH BACKUPS

“HEY SARGE, SHOW THE ROOKIE HOW MANY BACKUP GUNS YOU CARRY.”

It was late at night, and I was standing in a dark gas station parking lot talking with one of my field-training officers. He had a new recruit, fresh from the police academy, whom he was training. I pulled up one pant leg to reveal a Glock 27, then opened my uniform shirt to show the Smith & Wesson Model 642 riding on my vest.

“Why do you carry two backup guns?” the recruit asked.

“Because I might need them.”

While I strongly believe that tactics, awareness and good communication skills can prevent many fights, I also know that sometimes the fight is coming no matter what you do. In those cases, I don’t want to die because I didn’t have the tools to get the job done. When your primary duty pistol goes down, a second gun may be the only thing that will get you home. On numerous occasions, law enforcement officers have rescued themselves from bad situa-

tions only with the help of a second, or even third, gun.

Deadly-force encounters have shown us that the only predictable thing about a violent incident is their chaotic nature. Sometimes a firearm will be dropped, taken away or rendered completely inoperable for one reason or another. In these cases, accessing a secondary firearm is the most realistic way to stay in the fight. Just as your duty pistol backs up your shotgun or rifle, so should a second pistol back up your duty handgun. Considerations including size, caliber, cost and department policy will all guide your selection of a backup gun.

I’ve assembled this list in an effort to guide you toward some of the quality pistols suitable for backup duty. All of the guns in this article are pistols that I have either carried or would carry as my own backup gun. That doesn’t mean there aren’t other handguns that are good choices for the role, but these are a few of my top choices that I know I can rely on when a call goes sideways.



GLOCK 27 GEN4

For any officer carrying a Glock 22 duty pistol, the Glock 27 is perhaps the ultimate backup gun. In addition to operating exactly the same as the duty gun, the G27 can use the larger gun’s magazines. I carried one for years and found it easy to both carry and shoot. The Gen4 model adds the ability to adjust the grip size, improves the grip texture and increases the size of the magazine release. (glock.com; 770-432-1202)

SPECIFICATIONS

CALIBER: .40 S&W
BARREL: 3.42 inches
OA LENGTH: 6.41 inches
WEIGHT: 21.89 ounces (empty)
GRIP: Polymer
SIGHTS: Fixed
ACTION: Safe Action
FINISH: Matte black
CAPACITY: 9+1
MSRP: \$649



GLOCK 43

The Glock 43 is a Slimline, subcompact pistol that carries much more easily than the existing G26 without losing the shootability of the thicker pistol. It can ride backup more discreetly than other Glock pistols while still giving an officer seven rounds of 9mm with which to take action. My Glock 43 pistol has proven to be utterly reliable with all types of ammunition, and is more than accurate enough to engage threats at 25 yards and beyond. (glock.com; 770-432-1202)

SPECIFICATIONS

CALIBER: 9mm
BARREL: 3.39 inches
OA LENGTH: 6.26 inches
WEIGHT: 17.95 ounces (empty)
GRIP: Polymer
SIGHTS: Fixed
ACTION: Safe Action
FINISH: Matte black
CAPACITY: 6+1
MSRP: \$589

12 LAST-DITCH BACKUPS



KAHR CM9

Even out of a short barrel, the 9mm is a potent round. With the

SPECIFICATIONS

CALIBER:	9mm
BARREL:	3 inches
OA LENGTH:	5.42 inches
WEIGHT:	15.9 ounces (empty)
GRIP:	Polymer
SIGHTS:	Adjustable
ACTION:	Striker-fired
FINISH:	Matte black, stainless
CAPACITY:	6+1
MSRP:	\$460

very compact Kahr CM9, a law enforcement officer can have seven rounds of lifesaving firepower easily concealed in a pocket, on an ankle or attached to a bullet-resistant vest. Kahr designed these "Value Series" pistols to operate at the same high level as the company's other guns, but at a price that a rookie street cop can afford. (kahr.com; 508-795-3919)



RUGER LC9s PRO

Offering a superb balance of performance and price, the LC9s Pro is a compact, striker-fired 9mm pistol. Ruger equips this handgun

with very usable three-dot sights and deletes both the magazine disconnect and external thumb safety from the Pro model. This provides a police officer with a gun that can be brought into action quickly without any worries of it being accidentally rendered inoperable. Chambered in 9mm, the pistol uses a single-stack magazine to keep the gun width to just 0.9 inches. (ruger.com)

SPECIFICATIONS

CALIBER:	9mm
BARREL:	3.1 inches
OA LENGTH:	6 inches
WEIGHT:	17.2 ounces (empty)
GRIP:	Polymer
SIGHTS:	Adjustable three-dot
ACTION:	Striker-fired
FINISH:	Matte black
CAPACITY:	7+1
MSRP:	\$449



RUGER LCR

Possibly the best self-defense revolver introduced in the 21st century, the Ruger LCR is an incredibly smooth-shooting compact wheelgun that is both affordable and reliable. The friction-reducing cam system gives the officer a very clean, consistent trigger pull, while the blended-material body combines with the Hogue grip to reduce felt recoil when compared to traditional designs. Ruger offers these revolvers in a range of calibers, though I believe the best balance for a backup gun is found in the original .38 Special +P model. (ruger.com)

SPECIFICATIONS

CALIBER:	.38 Special +P
BARREL:	1.88 inches
OA LENGTH:	6.5 inches
WEIGHT:	13.5 ounces (empty)
GRIP:	Hogue Tamer
SIGHTS:	Fixed
ACTION:	DAO
FINISH:	Matte black
CAPACITY:	5
MSRP:	\$545



SIG SAUER P290RS

Sig Sauer is frequently associated with the full-sized fighting handguns of the Navy SEALs and other elite units. However, the P290RS is a polymer-framed, subcompact pistol worthy of the same high regard. The gun has a smooth DAO trigger and combat-ready night sights to help ensure superb accuracy. Although small, this pistol fills the hand nicely and is reassuringly rugged. I've found this gun to be 100-percent reliable. (sigsauer.com; 603-610-3000)

SPECIFICATIONS

CALIBER:	9mm
BARREL:	2.9 inches
OA LENGTH:	5.5 inches
WEIGHT:	20.5 ounces (empty)
GRIP:	Polymer
SIGHTS:	SIGLITE night
ACTION:	DAO
FINISH:	Matte black
CAPACITY:	6+1, 8+1
MSRP:	\$488



GENETICS.



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The FNS-9 is a polymer-framed, striker-fired 9mm, with a 4" cold hammer-forged barrel and polished feed ramp. It features fully ambidextrous controls, a loaded chamber indicator, smooth trigger safety, a crisp, audible-resetting trigger, 1913 picatinny rail, and three 17-round magazines.



FNHUSA.COM

12 LAST-DITCH BACKUPS



SMITH & WESSON M&P9 SHIELD

For a department issuing the full-sized M&P pistol, the Smith & Wesson M&P Shield makes a lot of sense as a backup gun. The Shield has the same look and feel as the larger pistols, giving an officer immediate familiarity with the gun. Small enough to carry on an ankle, the Shield is large enough to easily control during rapid fire. Models are available with and without (shown) a manual thumb safety. (smith-wesson.com; 800-331-0852)

SPECIFICATIONS

CALIBER:	9mm
BARREL:	3.1 inches
OA LENGTH:	6.1 inches
WEIGHT:	19 ounces (empty)
GRIP:	Polymer
SIGHTS:	Three-dot
ACTION:	Striker-fired
FINISH:	Matte black
CAPACITY:	7+1
MSRP:	\$449



SMITH & WESSON MODEL 642

Perhaps the iconic backup gun, the Smith & Wesson Model 642 is a Centennial revolver that offers the ultimate in reliability under stress. This revolver has a completely concealed hammer, ensuring nothing will catch during a draw from concealment, and it can be reliably fired from a winter coat pocket. The aluminum frame is lightweight yet strong enough to handle even the heaviest of .38 Special +P loads. I carried one of these nearly every day of my law enforcement career. (smith-wesson.com; 800-331-0852)

SPECIFICATIONS

CALIBER:	.38 Special +P
BARREL:	1.88 inches
OA LENGTH:	6.31 inches
WEIGHT:	15 ounces (empty)
GRIP:	Synthetic
SIGHTS:	Fixed
ACTION:	DAO
FINISH:	Matte stainless
CAPACITY:	5
MSRP:	\$499



SPRINGFIELD ARMORY XD-S 3.3"

SPECIFICATIONS

CALIBER:	9mm, .40, .45 ACP
BARREL:	3.3 inches
OA LENGTH:	6.3 inches
WEIGHT:	21.5-23 ounces (empty)
GRIP:	Polymer
SIGHTS:	Fiber-optic front, adjustable rear
ACTION:	Striker-fired
FINISH:	Matte black, stainless
CAPACITY:	7+1 (9mm), 6+1 (.40), 5+1 (.45)
MSRP:	\$600

The XD-S line of compact pistols from Springfield Armory offers an excellent solution to any law enforcement officer needing a backup gun. XD-S pistols have proven themselves to be reliable and accurate without breaking the bank. Available in both 9mm and .45 ACP, the guns offer respectable capacity in a small frame. Light recoil, a smooth trigger and a fiber-optic front sight all contribute to the pistol's ability to put rounds on target quickly. (springfield-armory.com; 800-680-6866)



WALTHER PPS

Thin and flat, the PPS is a single-stack 9mm pistol from Walther that has proven to be a very good performer under virtually all conditions. I've tested one of these pistols extensively and found the gun to be very easy shooting for such a small gun. Easily concealed on an ankle or vest, the PPS can be a literal lifesaver with its quick, accurate shooting and bulletproof reliability. (waltherarms.com; 479-242-8500)

SPECIFICATIONS

CALIBER:	9mm
BARREL:	3.2 inches
OA LENGTH:	6.3 inches
WEIGHT:	20.8 ounces (empty)
GRIP:	Polymer
SIGHTS:	Three-dot
ACTION:	Striker-fired
FINISH:	Matte black
CAPACITY:	7+1
MSRP:	\$599

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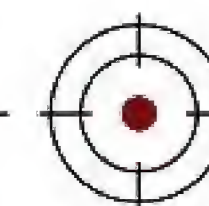
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RACK IT!

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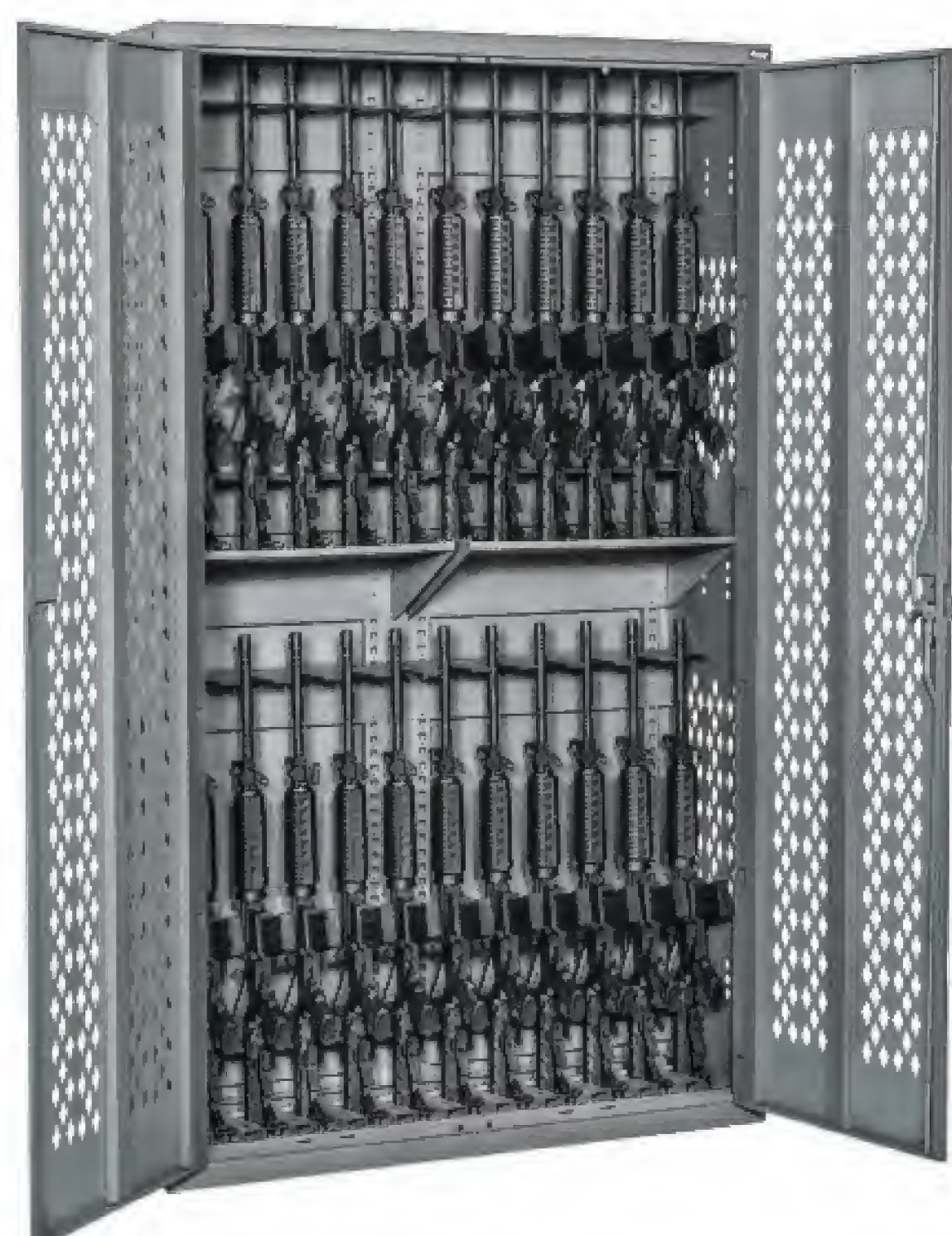
BY RICHARD JOHNSON

Weapon retention is a basic survival skill drilled into recruit officers at the academy. Unfortunately, this basic lesson is not always carried over to the administrative duties of maintaining and storing department weapons. Too many news reports of rifles and other weapons missing from department armories have hit local headlines in recent years.

It is very important to make sure police officers have the tools they need for an increasingly dangerous job. However, it is equally important to account for each weapon that is acquired by a department. Not only do agencies have a fiduciary responsibility to taxpayers to ensure monies are reasonably spent, but allowing criminal access to firearms is unconscionable. Let's take a look at several different storage options for safely storing weapons at the department.

DATUM ARGOS CABINET

Versatility is at the heart of this customizable weapons storage cabinet from Datum Storage Solutions. The Argos Cabinet can be fitted with traditional hinged doors or with bi-fold doors for space optimization in tight environments. Configured to accommodate all kinds of weapons and gear, these cabinets can also be had in a range of colors and are backed by a lifetime guarantee. The cabinets are also stackable to make the most of your available space. (datumstorage.com; 800-828-8018)



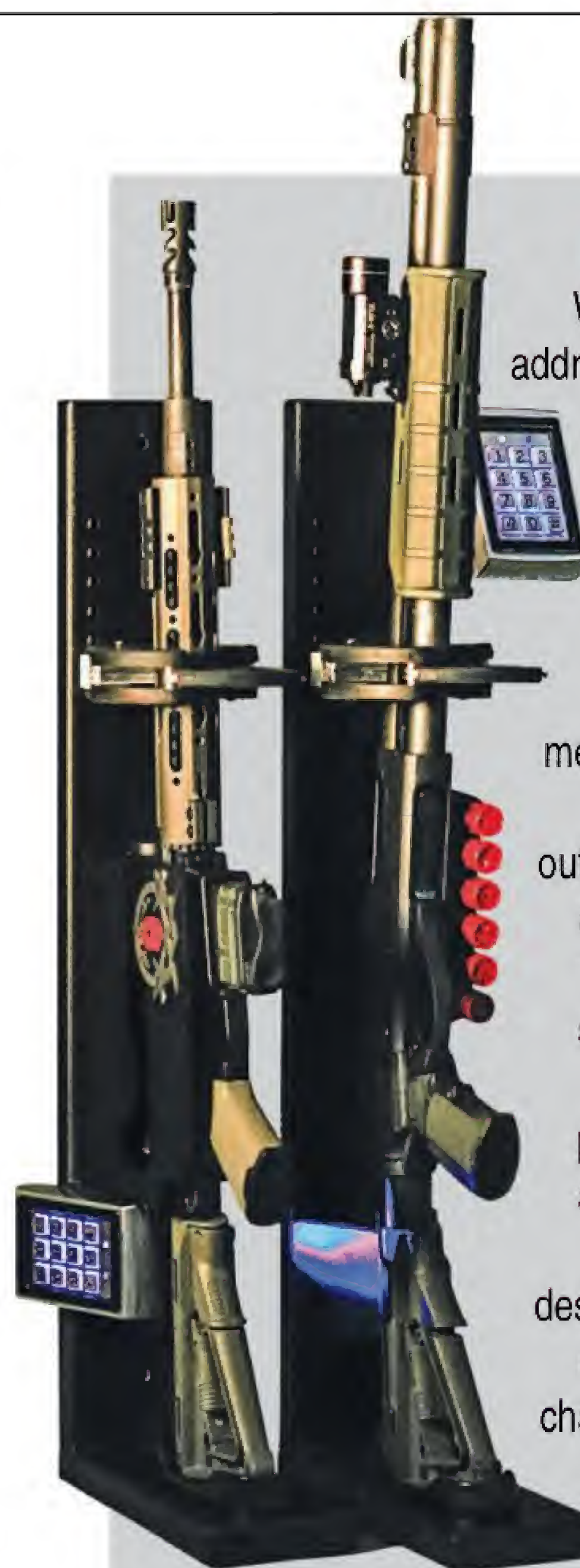
FRANKLIN MILLS WEAPONS CABINET

With a focus on durability, the Weapons Cabinet sold by Franklin Mills Company features a blend of adjustable storage with high security. If needed, mere seconds is all it takes to reconfigure the storage style in a Weapons Cabinet. Depending on your particular needs, these storage units can be stacked or run side-by-side for maximum space efficiency. (franklinmillsco.com; 888-678-4585)



DLS WEAPON STORAGE CABINETS

Both pistols and rifles can be stored in these well-organized Weapon Storage Cabinets sold by DLS Weapon Storage Systems. Each drawer is individually secured, plus a separate locking tambour door prevents unauthorized access to any of the individual compartments. The cabinets can be configured with a combination of pistol drawers, a long storage drawer and a rifle drawer. Additionally, the units offer a work shelf that can be pulled out for support while tinkering with the guns and other items. (dlsweaponsystems.com; 800-405-5250)



COVERED 6 RTD

While many other rifle racks address the need to administratively store multiple rifles for patrol officers, the Covered 6 RTD (Ready To Deploy) ensures safe storage of individual rifles inside the police department. Should a gunman enter the police building, running out to the patrol car to retrieve a rifle wastes valuable time. The RTD allows rifles to be securely stored in offices or common areas while still providing instant access via a keypad and RFID key fob.

Additionally, the patented design of this system prevents manipulation of a weapon's charging handle while the rifle is in the rack. (securerifle.com; 805-926-2055)



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RACK IT!

FASCO FLGC-700

Using 16-gauge steel and all welded construction, the FLGC-700 rifle cabinet from Fasco Security Products offers a great balance of security and flexibility. The cabinets use full-length piano hinges, cam locks and three-point latching to resist unauthorized access. Additionally, these weapons storage units offer nearly unlimited versatility in interior layout and custom sizing. All of these units have a protective powder-coat finish. (fascosecurityproducts.com; 763-434-9841)



SPACESAVER UWR

From pistols to rifles, the Spacesaver Universal Weapon Rack (UWR) maximizes storage space to securely house many different guns in a single cabinet frame. All welded construction and thick steel combine with heavy-duty locking bars to provide exceptional security. Rifle barrel supports are all coated with PVC to protect the gun finishes. The cabinets can be fitted with bins to keep magazines, ammunition and other components with the guns. As an added feature, the weapons cabinets can be outfitted with carry handles and dollies for portable yet secure storage. (spacesaver.com; 800-255-8170)

SECUREIT TACTICAL WEAPON STORAGE PLATFORM

Using a patented saddle system, the Secureit Tactical Weapon Storage Platform offers unlimited configurations in a single cabinet. Using upper and lower saddles along with large storage bins, a department can custom-design the layout of these racks to meet all of its secure storage needs. Pistols, rifles, shotguns and specialty gear can all be kept secure behind 14-gauge, all-welded steel. The best part: No tools are required to configure the layout of the storage rack. (secureittactical.com; 800-651-8835)



SEKURE EXPANDABLE WEAPONS RACK

If your department already has a secure armory and organization is a larger concern than additional security, take a look at the SEKURE Expandable Weapons Racks being sold by SEK Solutions. These open designed racks are modular and can be configured to take nearly any weapon in your department's inventory. The racks can be had in single- or double-sided solutions to meet your department's specific needs. (866-601-1671; seksolutions.com)

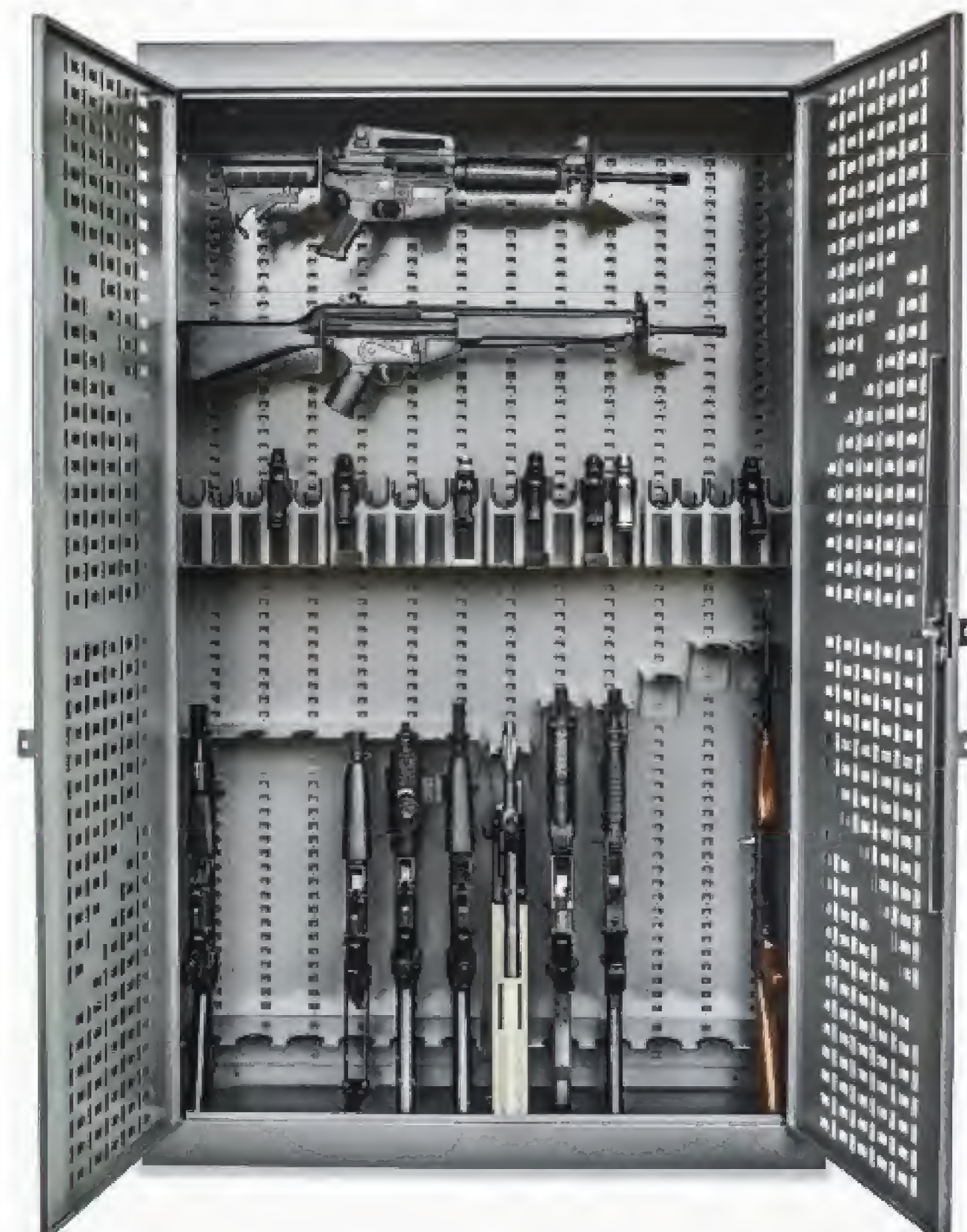



TIFFIN METAL PRODUCTS WEAPONS RACK

Completely customizable yet eminently practical, the Tiffin Metal Products Weapons Rack allows a police department to easily store a number of rifles, pistols and related gear securely. The bi-fold doors retract out of the way to allow for complete access to all of the weapons, while the heavy gauge steel ensures only the right people will be able to. Custom sizes and configurations are available, and all of the units have a protective powder-coat finish for enhanced long-term durability. (sentinellockers.com; 800-537-0983)

TSI UNIVERSAL WEAPON CABINETS

TSI's Universal Weapons Cabinets and Open Racks can be configured to meet the specific needs of your department. These units can be configured for all kinds of small arms, including handguns, rifles, shotguns and specialized SWAT weapons. These cabinets use 14-gauge all-steel construction with a three-point locking system. For additional storage security, a solid steel door option is also available and is padlockable. Three heights are available. (tsiweapons.com; 719-593-5888)





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 **GUN TEST**

WITNESS

Meet the short-barreled shotgun

Camera One photo

By Rob Garrett

THE shotgun is, by far, the longest-serving long gun in the American law enforcement community.

It served Doc Holliday and Wyatt Earp well and, in 2015, continues to be the most prevalent long gun in the armories of police agencies across the country. While most law enforcement shotguns are bland and unexciting, there are specific versions that hold a unique appeal. One of those is the Witness Protection 870, or WP870.

The WP870 gains its name from its adoption and use by the United States Marshal's Service. Fellow gun scribe Chris McLoughlin outlined the beginnings of the original guns in a 1984 article. According to McLoughlin, Gene Thompson, Lynn Jordall and Jim Wilson built three prototypes. This was a collaborative effort with each man working on a select feature to produce the most effective platform. The result was a cut-down Remington 870 with

a 14.5-inch barrel, a custom-built hand stop and, most significantly, an ergonomic grip that retained the shape of the original factory stock. Other modifications included a slotted shell lifter to assist in clearing a short-stroke-induced double feed and a unique sling system. In the 1984 article, McLoughlin reports that some 240 modified 870s were in the inventories of the Marshal's Service.

MARSHAL'S SCATTERGUNS

The WP870 has made several appearances in the media. I have a clipping from the November 11, 1985, issue of *Newsweek* magazine in my files that carried the headline "Busting the Bhagwam." A photo shows a U.S. marshal carrying a WP870 as he escorts a prisoner to a hearing in Charlotte, North Carolina. In an Associated Press photo from February 2, 1987, a female marshal is shown providing court security during the trial of narco trafficker Carlos

PROTECTION

carried by U.S. marshals.

870



As these photos from the 1980s show, U.S. marshals have been escorting prisoners and protecting themselves and witnesses with short-barreled WP870 shotguns for decades.



Designed for close-protection duty, the WP870 produced acceptable patterns during testing at the range with several Winchester loads at 15 yards.

Lehder Rivas. The sight of this sawed-off scattergun certainly attracted attention and served as a deterrent.

Jim Wilson was a talented machinist whose modest shop was located on Oriole Street in Brunswick, Georgia. Wilson saw the potential for other government, law enforcement and civilian sales of the WP870. Wilson provided two distinct services regarding the WP870. The first was a conversion of an agency

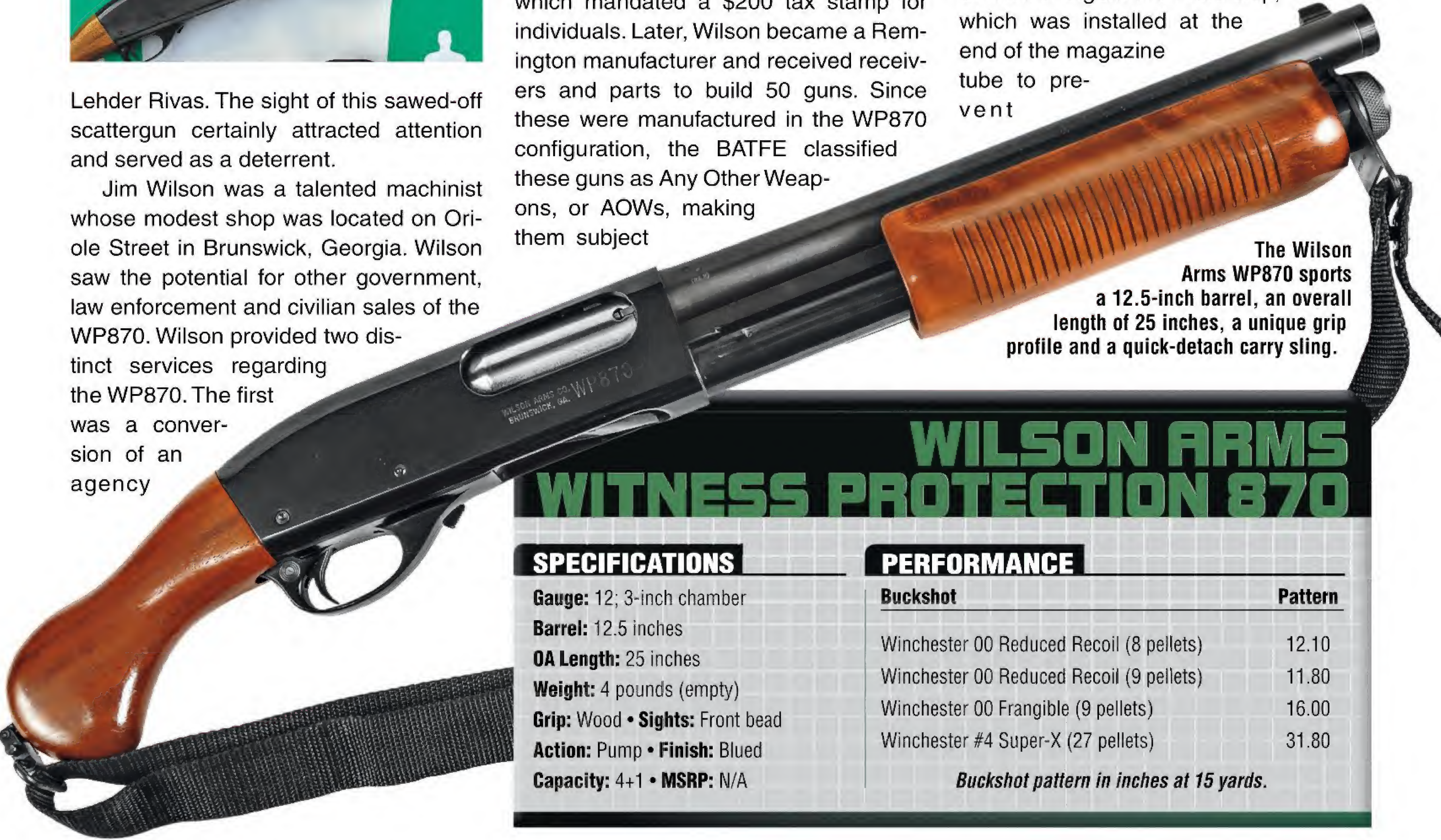
shotgun. The second was to convert a customer's personal 870 into a WP870. In 1984, the conversion cost was listed as \$214.80. Because this was a conversion of a non-NFA shotgun, the BATFE classified it a short-barreled shotgun (SBS), which mandated a \$200 tax stamp for individuals. Later, Wilson became a Remington manufacturer and received receivers and parts to build 50 guns. Since these were manufactured in the WP870 configuration, the BATFE classified these guns as Any Other Weapons, or AOWs, making them subject

to a \$5 AOW tax stamp. Unfortunately, the arrangement between Wilson and Remington did not continue, and no more WP870s were manufactured as AOWs.

The barrels on the original marshal's guns were simply cut to 14.5 inches with little thought or testing given to patterns and performance. Wilson made several changes to the original WP870 design, with the most notable changes being to the barrel. Wilson thought the 14.5-inch barrel was longer than needed and cut the barrel to 12.5 inches, just even with the magazine cap. Wilson wanted to improve the performance of his gun and installed a modified WinChoke to tighten up the patterning. The barrel retained a factory bead sight. As with the original design, the grip is manufactured from the original stock and is rounded to a bird's head configuration. As with any combat shotgun, the shotgun was given a shorter forend to allow access to the loading port while the slide is in the rearward position.

One of the marshal's requirements of the WP870 was that it be concealable under a jacket. The original designers came up with an ingenious solution to carry the 25-inch shotgun. The hand stop, which was installed at the end of the magazine tube to prevent

The Wilson Arms WP870 sports a 12.5-inch barrel, an overall length of 25 inches, a unique grip profile and a quick-detach carry sling.



WILSON ARMS WITNESS PROTECTION 870

SPECIFICATIONS		PERFORMANCE	
Gauge: 12; 3-inch chamber		Buckshot	Pattern
Barrel: 12.5 inches		Winchester 00 Reduced Recoil (8 pellets)	12.10
OA Length: 25 inches		Winchester 00 Reduced Recoil (9 pellets)	11.80
Weight: 4 pounds (empty)		Winchester 00 Frangible (9 pellets)	16.00
Grip: Wood • Sights: Front bead		Winchester #4 Super-X (27 pellets)	31.80
Action: Pump • Finish: Blued		<i>Buckshot pattern in inches at 15 yards.</i>	
Capacity: 4+1 • MSRP: N/A			



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the user's hand from slipping in front of the muzzle, also served as a sling receptacle. A traditional sling swivel was installed at the rear of the pistol grip. The key to this system was the design of the sling. The designers utilized an M1 Carbine sling with a quick-release snap that was mounted to the hand stop. The shotgun could be slung under a jacket in an upside-down configuration. To present the shotgun, the user would grasp the forend with his or her support hand, reach across their body and unsnap the sling. This freed the shotgun, and the support hand pulled the gun from under the jacket for a reasonably efficient presentation.

RANGE TESTING

We were fortunate to have access to one of the Wilson Arms WP870s for this evaluation. Our test gun retained the original blue finish and was equipped with a wooden forend and reshaped grip. The owner had previously installed a "Flex-Tab" kit to update the shell lifter and replaced the standard bead sight with an XS tritium bead. While purchased in 1997, the WP870 was in pristine condition.

To be effective, the WP870 requires a unique firing position. The preferred position is to bring the shotgun to eye level and extended away from the face. In this manner, the WP870 is capable of sighted fire as if it were a stocked shotgun. To maximize recoil control, a push/pull grip is used with the support hand pushing forward while the strong hand pulls to the rear. Invariably, a new shooter will want to shoot it from the hip, Hollywood style. However, they will quickly learn how easy it is to miss an entire target from as close as 10 yards.



While original WP870s featured slotted shell lifters, the test shotgun was upgraded with a Remington Flex-Tab kit.

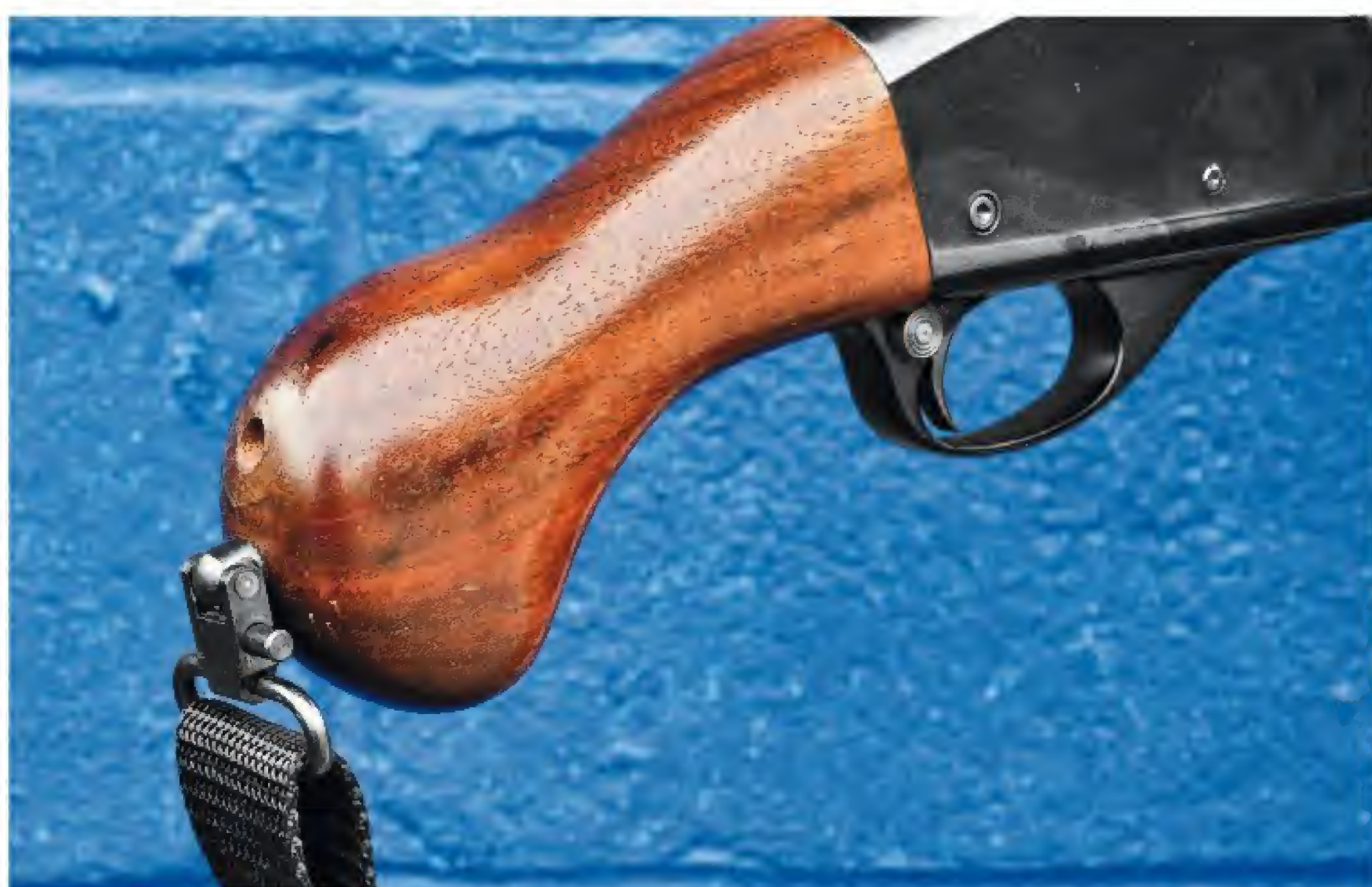
We tested the WP870 with three Winchester loads. The first was the Super-X #4 buckshot load, which is comparable to the round issued by the U.S. Marshal's Service. Winchester also has two low-recoil 00 buckshot loads in its Ranger line. We tested both eight- and nine-pellet reduced-recoil loads. We also tested the nine-pellet Ranger frangible 00 load. This load is designed for CQB, training and special applications.

Given the mission parameters of the WP870, we conducted pattern testing at 15 yards. The #4 buckshot, which is a sporting and hunting

load, produced a pattern that measured 24 by 21 inches, with the diameter being 31.8 inches. The reduced-recoil Ranger loads patterned significantly better, with the nine-pellet load producing a pattern of 7 by 9 inches (11.9-inch diameter) while the eight-pellet pattern measured 7.5 by 9.5 inches (12.1-inch diameter). The nine-pellet frangible load created a 10-by-12.5-inch pattern with a 16-inch diameter. Our shooting impressions were very positive when the proper technique was utilized. The #4 load produced the sharpest recoil, while both reduced-recoil loads were quite easy to shoot.

In the age of compact rifle-caliber carbines and, to a lesser extent, submachine guns, many view the shotgun as an antique whose time has passed. However, anyone who has racked an 870 on a suspect at 2:00 a.m. can attest to how abruptly the suspect will change their attitude. The WP870 was designed for a specific close-protection role, and it protected lawmen and bad guys equally. It has a very quiet but notable history that will not be forgotten by those who relied on it.

The Wilson Arms WP870 has also been featured in movies—including *Eraser*, *Enemy of the State* and *The Book of Eli*—and on television, in shows like *Justified*. For those who wish to own a piece of history, versions of the WP870 design have been copied by other manufacturers and can still be located in NFA circles. Check secondary markets for WP870 availability. ■



The grip (left) is actually cut and modified from the original 870 stock. The hand stop (above) also serves as a sling hook.

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Built by operators for operators, this .223 Wylde AR from Krypteia Strategies is born to keep running!

By D.K. Pridgen Lately it seems like every person who ever laid their hands or eyes on an AR-15 has an opinion on how to improve it.

Obviously, not all are valid opinions. Those military personnel in country during the Vietnam era are certainly entitled to feeling that the rifle needed improvements. Military personnel active in other hotspots around the globe since then would likely be just as entitled.

LEOs who have carried and used the AR-15 are sure to be justified in their opinions regarding the design and effectiveness of their AR and accessories. Even those who compete extensively can have valid opinions on how a competitive AR should be outfitted.

Of course, opinions are like, er, noses—everyone has one—and that may be the only qualification for many recommending ARs and accessories. Dragging a carbine from the gun safe and spending a few hours on the range plinking at targets doesn't support a pronouncement of its serious social work. But, as I said, those who know and use the weapon frequently have earned the right to opinions: qualified trainers, LEOs, military personnel and contractors who have worked in hot zones.

KRYPTeia'S EDGE

Which brings us to the guys from Krypteia Strategies of Ormond Beach, Florida, retired military personnel with experience “ranging from conventional warfare to special operations.” They still work in “real-world, high-threat

environments [which] brings our client the most up to date and advanced training available.”

Krypteia Strategies' staff is composed of trainers “employing and utilizing the best from the military's combat arms, special operations, snipers, medics, reconnaissance and intelligence communities.” According to Krypteia, “With dozens of combat deployments, thousands of live missions, and decades of combined experience, our staff presents a product unlike anything else available on the market.”

Krypteia trains LEOs, military personnel and non-commissioned citizens in a variety of pertinent, and frequently multi-level courses, some restricted to LEOs and military, and others related to concealed carry. Courses can also be tailored to meet special needs.



The Combative Elements Carbine, or CEC, is ready to go right out of the box. Krypteia Strategies offers this .223 Wylde AR with Magpul sights, a ZeroBravo hand stop and a Vortex SPARC II. Also shown with a SureFire Scout light.

★ ELEMENTS CARBINE

With their experience, the folks at Krypteia have definite ideas about what is needed in the firearms they used in the military, still use as contractors and carry while training their students. Last year they collaborated with Ed Brown to offer a Krypteia Strategies 1911. Now they are offering an AR-15 designed by their Combative Elements division, which is charged with product design, consulting and media.

Daniel Robertson, Krypteia's co-founder and lead instructor, said the Combative Elements Carbine (CEC) originated because the company needed a rifle capable

of withstanding any beating it might be given by anyone, anywhere. "The rifle was spec'd and designed on our staff's experiences overseas, as well as collaborative input from our students in the LEO, military and government sectors as to what they would like to see in a rifle as operators."

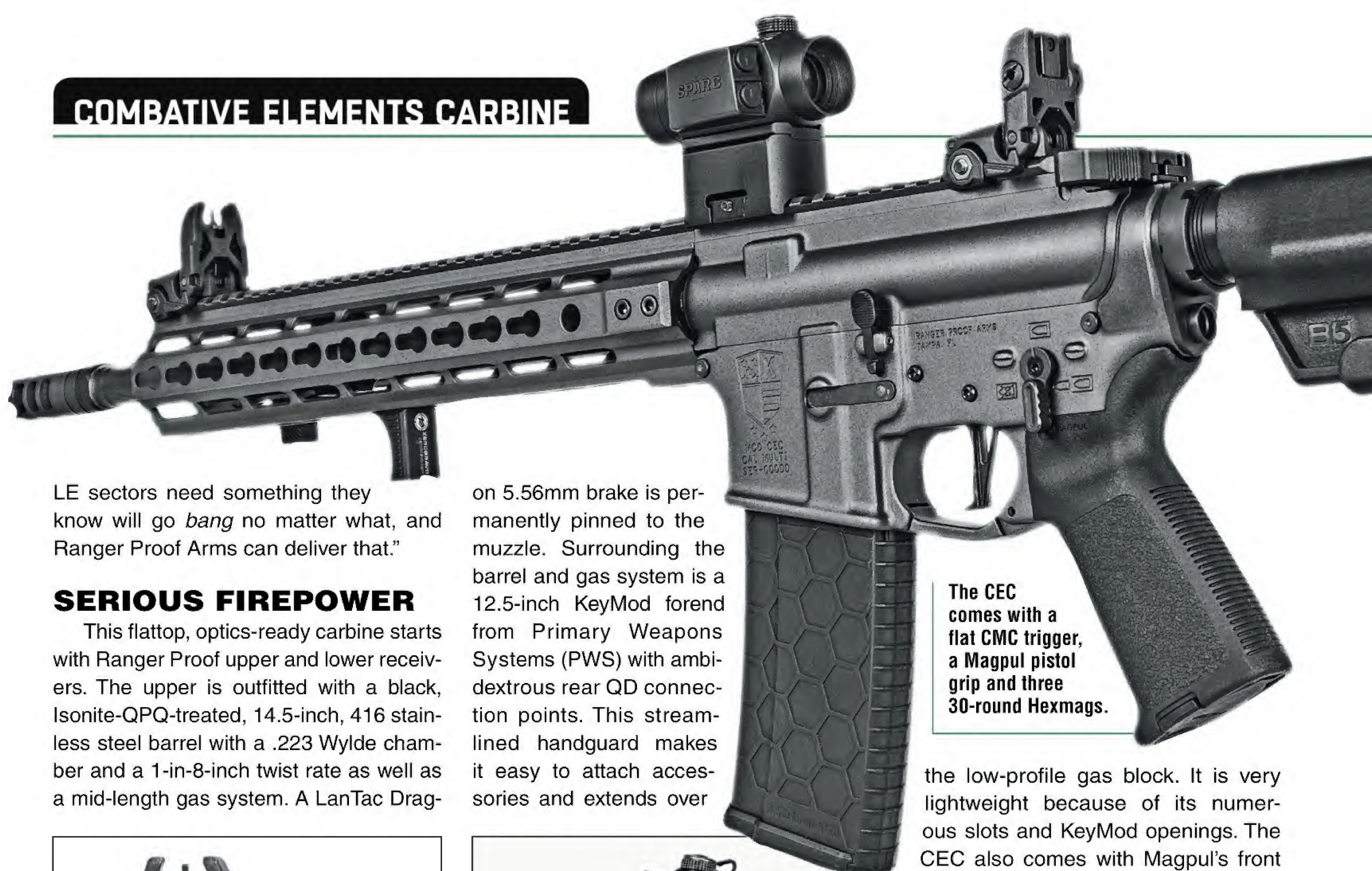
By extension, the Krypteia CEC should provide exactly what anyone needs in a serious carbine. Krypteia Strategies worked with Ranger Proof Arms to design the CEC after putting

several thousand rounds through one of the latter's carbines in one day and "literally beating the s\$%* out of it" without having a single malfunction.

All of this testing, abusing and choosing just the right parts to enhance the CEC is important, because Krypteia expects "a large number of these carbines will be put in the hands of operators in units that will depend on them with their lives. Where a standard carbine would fail, ours needed to not only perform but excel in any environment. Our guys in the government and



COMBATIVE ELEMENTS CARBINE



LE sectors need something they know will go *bang* no matter what, and Ranger Proof Arms can deliver that.”

SERIOUS FIREPOWER

This flattop, optics-ready carbine starts with Ranger Proof upper and lower receivers. The upper is outfitted with a black, Isonite-QPQ-treated, 14.5-inch, 416 stainless steel barrel with a .223 Wylde chamber and a 1-in-8-inch twist rate as well as a mid-length gas system. A LanTac Drag-

on 5.56mm brake is permanently pinned to the muzzle. Surrounding the barrel and gas system is a 12.5-inch KeyMod forend from Primary Weapons Systems (PWS) with ambidextrous rear QD connection points. This streamlined handguard makes it easy to attach accessories and extends over

The CEC comes with a flat CMC trigger, a Magpul pistol grip and three 30-round Hexmags.

the low-profile gas block. It is very lightweight because of its numerous slots and KeyMod openings. The CEC also comes with Magpul’s front and rear MBUS backup sights as well as a ZeroBravo reversible hand stop that slides easily into a KeyMod opening on the handguard.

A Ranger Proof Arms enhanced bolt carrier group and an ambidextrous, 7075 aluminum AXTS Raptor charging handle complete the upper. The full-auto-style bolt carrier group has a black nitride finish and is modified to prevent any canting or tilt during recoil. The heavier setup should run smoother and hold up better to harsh use.

The CEC’s lower is also outfitted with specifically chosen items. According to Krypteia, “We chose all the carbine parts because they are the best of the best. We want our end-user to be able to purchase the rifle and never have to drop a dime into upgrades because a specific part isn’t performing.” The mil-spec receiver extension houses a PWS H2 buffer and wears a comfortable, adjustable B5 Systems Bravo buttstock with ambidextrous QD connection points.

Magpul’s MOE grip rides behind Black Creek Precision’s enhanced, billet trigger-guard. Inside the triggerguard is CMC’s exceptional 3.5-pound flat trigger, which breaks crisply at 3.25 pounds. Next is a Battle Arms Development Short-Throw (45-degree) Ambidextrous Safety Selector. Finally, a hard-to-miss Odin Works XMR extended mag release is added.



The trim, 12.5-inch PWS KeyMod forend makes it easy to add accessories like this SureFire Scout light where needed.



The receivers feature a smooth Krypteia Grey Cerakote finish. Also note the extended Odin Works magazine release.

KRYPTeia STRATEGIES CEC

SPECIFICATIONS

Caliber: .223 Wylde • **Barrel:** 14.5 inches
OA Length: 32.5 inches
Weight: 7 pounds (empty)
Stock: B5 Systems Bravo
Sights: Magpul MBUS • **Capacity:** 30+1
Action: Direct impingement semi-auto
Finish: Grey Cerakote • **MSRP:** \$1,799

PERFORMANCE

Load	Velocity	Accuracy
Federal Tactical 55 SP	2,907	1.01
Hornady 62 Barrier TAP	2,775	0.98
Wilson Combat 77 Match BTHP	2,444	0.89

Bullet weight measured in grains, velocity in fps by chronograph, and accuracy in inches for best five-shot groups at 100 yards.



The CEC's steel parts are finished in Isonite QPQ, while the aluminum alloy parts are hardcoat anodized. A special Krypteia Grey Cerakote is applied over all of this. The only color available on the CEC, it's nice looking and extremely durable. According to Daniel Robertson, grey "is by far the best color for any operational environment." The end result is a trim, lightweight, fast-moving carbine.

Rounding out the package is a hard plastic case and three Hexmag HX30

magazines. There are three optional accessories: a Vortex SPARC II, a SureFire Mini Scout light and Krypteia's new, upcoming hybrid combat sling. (All Krypteia personnel run the SPARC II on their carbines and submachine guns when working.)

RANGE TIME

To test the CEC, Krypteia kindly included one of the optional Vortex SPARC II sights. I also added a Blue Force Gear two-point Vickers sling, a KeyMod rail adapter and the SureFire Scout light I had on hand. Not wanting to swap sights repeatedly, I spent the first part of the test with CQB drills using the SPARC II. The CEC handled quite well from 2

The CEC features a Battle Arms Development ambi safety, an AXTS ambi Raptor charging handle and an Odin Works XMR extended magazine release.



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COMBATIVE ELEMENTS CARBINE



The CEC comes with a LanTac Dragon muzzle brake, Magpul MBUS sights and a ZeroBravo hand stop.

to 50 yards; it was very responsive and the SPARC II worked well. The LanTac Dragon muzzle brake certainly helped reduce recoil.

Regarding the other enhancements Krypteia has built into the CEC, the CMC flat trigger was an educational experience. Someone once told me that the beauty of a flat trigger is that it feels the same no matter where you place your finger. It's true, and this trigger feels and works well for rapid fire and precise shooting.

To measure the CEC's accuracy, I replaced the SPARC II with a Leupold 4.5-14x50mm Mark 4 LR/T scope. Using this scope and the crisp, flat CMC trigger, shooting groups seemed like cheating! No, the CEC isn't quite a sniper rifle, but the groups it delivered were still very good. The AXTS Raptor charging handle, the Battle Arms safety selector and the Odin Works magazine release also performed as expected,

At the range, the Krypteia CEC handled well and provided quick follow-up shots during CQB drills with the SPARC II sight.

providing an edge. I really liked the B5 Systems Bravo buttstock and ZeroBravo hand stop. The ZeroBravo is fast becoming a favorite of mine.

I was impressed by my first experience with Hexmags. They did not stumble, nor did a number of other polymer and alloy magazines in the CEC—they all seated easily and securely and fed flawlessly.

READY FOR COMBAT

I went into the Krypteia CEC evaluation interested in finding out just what type carbine a group of experienced ex-military contractors and trainers would build based on all their experiences. After all, they have counted on their firearms to keep themselves and others alive. In the end, they did a great job—the CEC is an excellent defensive carbine with plenty of top-notch upgrades, including a KeyMod forend for easy accessorizing.

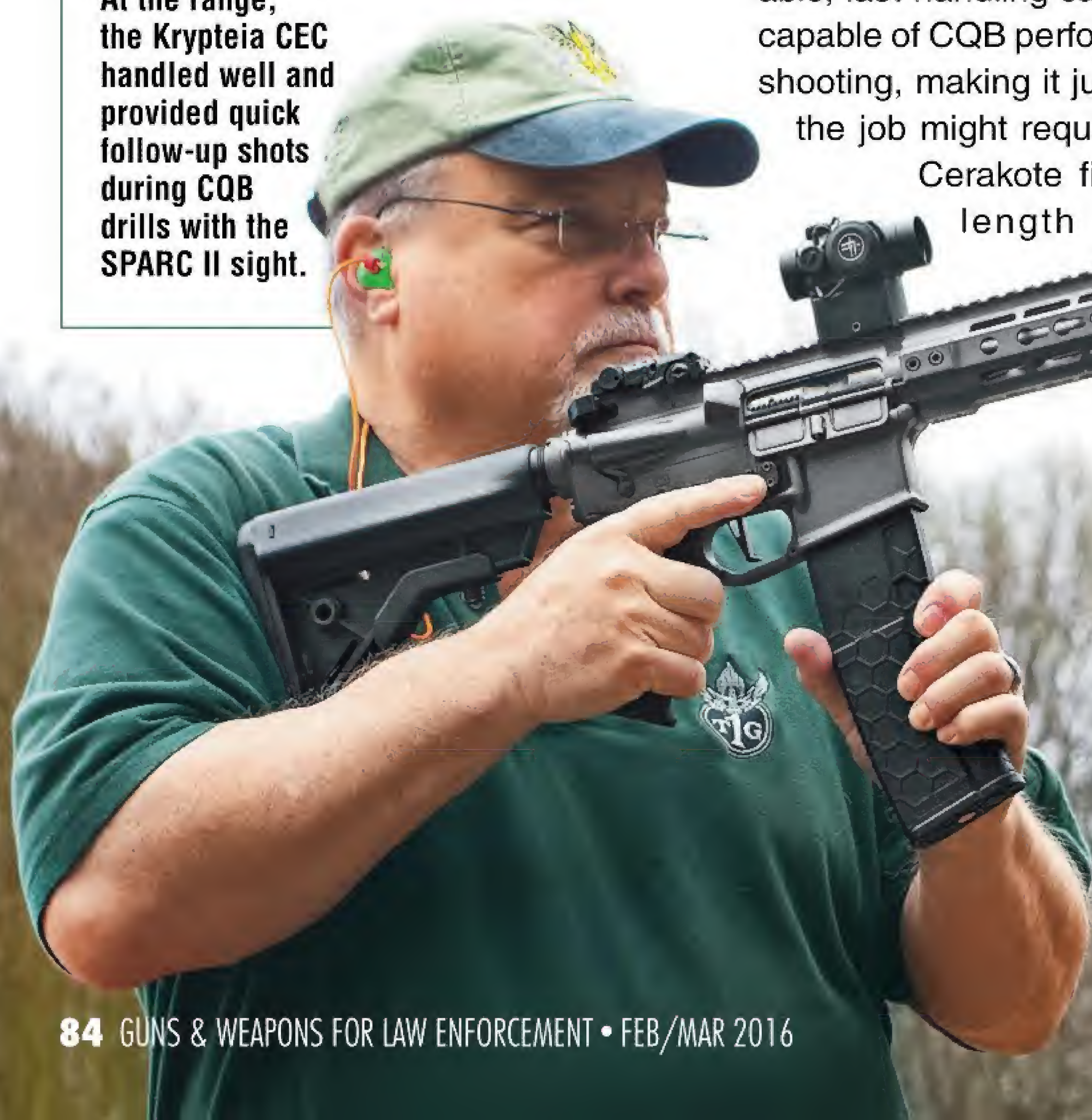
How does the CEC fit into an LEO's needs? Quite well, in fact. It's a dependable, fast-handling carbine that is equally capable of CQB performance and precise shooting, making it just right for anything the job might require. With its durable Cerakote finish, mid-length



The CEC was very accurate out to 100 yards with a Leupold scope mounted.

gas system and enhanced bolt carrier group, the CEC seems meant for the abuse an LEO carbine can expect.

The Krypteia CEC arrives with sights, so it's ready to go. All you need to optimize it are an optic, a sling and a weapon light. And Krypteia can provide those items as well! For more information, visit krypteiastrategies.com or call 407-442-3107.



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Previously only made for the U.S. government, Okay Industries' .223/5.56mm AR-15 aluminum magazines are now available commercially for manufacturers, law enforcement and civilian shooters. Since co-developing the original 30-round M16 magazine with the U.S. military in 1973, Okay magazines have earned a reputation as the best USGI versions available. The new civilian-ready SureFeed mags are 100-percent made in the U.S.A. with components that meet or exceed demanding mil-spec requirements. All magazines are hard coat anodized and available with either a Mil-Spec dry film lube grey finish or Tactical Black PTFE finish. (surefeedmagazines.com; 860-225-8707)



DEAD AIR SILENCERS FLASH HIDER

New from Dead Air Silencers is the long-awaited Flash Hider mount for the company's Sandman series of suppressors. Consumers demanded it, and Dead Air listened. The Flash Hider has a unique patent-pending design featuring mass-shifted, equal-length tines. The end result is a flash suppressor that does not "ping" when used with Dead Air suppressors. The Flash Hider is also backed by a lifetime warranty. (deadairsilencers.com; 877-892-7544)



ERGO MSR GRIP

The new ERGO MSR (Modern Sporting Rifle) Grip is perfect for shooters looking for a direct, modern replacement for the standard A2-style grip found on many modern sporting rifles. Its improved shape and texture provides better comfort and control for end-users. The MSR Grip has an ergonomic shape and is made of a durable polymer that is impact and heat resistant. The MSR Grip fits AR-15/M16-pattern rifles and others that use the same grip-mounting platform. (ergogrips.net; 877-281-3783)



HOGUE DUTY & OFF-DUTY BELTS

Hogue's new Duty Belt has attractive four-row stitching and a one-piece, polymer belt buckle that locks securely in place with Hogue's exclusive SlideLOCK design, making it nearly impossible to be removed by a third party. The Hogue Duty Belt has been designed to withstand the rigors of your shooting experience while the company's attractive Off-Duty Belt, with its two-row stitching, is a perfect fit for your downtime. (hogueinc.com; 800-438-4747)



VZ KEYMOD GRIPS

VZ Grips has unveiled its new KeyMod Grips (KMGs), which are grip panels that can attach to your favorite KeyMod platform. They are precision machined in VZ's very sought-after proprietary textures and G10 colors. All KMGs feature Bravo Company's new patent-pending Inverted KeyMod screw, which eliminates extra hardware and uses a T15 Torx head that is already a standard for many of the VZ grip screws. KMGs are available in 2- and 4-inch panels, two different contours, three different textures (Alien, RECON, Tac Diamonds) and numerous color schemes that match VZ's existing handgun line. (vzgrips.com; 850-422-1911)

SEEKINS NOXs HANDGUARD

The NOXs handguard from Seekins Precision, meaning "No Excess" and pronounced "Knocks," is designed as a lightweight, slim-profile handguard. The 1.5-inch-wide, CNC-machined NOXs handguard weighs less than 10 ounces (including mounting hardware) and offers features such as integrated sling mounts, a continuous, skeletonized top rail design, anti-rotation tabs and a patent-pending Cross-Lok weapon mounting system. NOXs handguards are available in 9-, 12.8- and 15-inch lengths with either KeyMod or M-LOK mounting systems. (seekinsprecision.com; 208-743-3400)



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DRONES IN THE SKY

Today's UAVs can help officers serve and protect from above!

BY DONALD J. MIHALEK

When a little boy was taken hostage and forced into a homemade bunker in January of 2013, the FBI was able to maintain 24/7 surveillance on the entire area through the use of a drone.

The vast wilderness of the southern border of the United States offers danger and uncertainty to the Customs and Border Protection (CBP) agents who have tried to secure it. When a group of drug smugglers or illegal aliens breaches U.S. sovereignty, often the chase is on. Reports have shown that many times these chases end with gunfire directed at the pursuing agents. Over the last several years, the CBP has turned to technology for help—drone technology.

The CBP has a fleet of over 12 drones, the most outside of the Department of Defense, and has used them to support other law enforcement agency missions.

UAV ADVANTAGES

Drones like the Predator are large aircraft that need a pilot to operate and are subject to FAA flight rules. The proper term for the platforms most law enforcement agencies are or will be using is “unmanned aerial vehicles”

(UAVs), which are much smaller, compact and less robust than a standard Predator drone.

For local and state law enforcement agencies, despite the debate, the use of UAVs is narrow in scope and size. Many law enforcement agencies don't have the benefit of an “air asset.” For these departments, photographing a crime scene and tracking a pursuing suspect are true benefits.

Some agencies have successfully used UAVs costing little more than \$100 as a beneficial tool in their law enforcement toolbox. Other local and state agencies are beginning to examine the usefulness of UAVs for their mission requirements, and some are already in use.

DRAGANFLY INNOVATIONS

The LAPD recently began using the Draganfly X-6 small unmanned aerial system (UAS). The high-tech device is approximately 3 feet wide and is well known for its use by professional photographers. The company's newest offerings—including the Guardian, X4-P, X4-ES and Commander—come with Sony 20.1-megapixel cameras. According to Draganfly Innovations, these cameras deliver a “high percentage of razor-sharp” images and have infrared night-vision capabilities.



Draganfly' drones are predominately the helicopter type and, because of their capabilities, are best used by agencies to stay in place and conduct surveillance. (draganfly.com; 800-979-9794)

VANGUARD DEFENSE

In Texas, the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office, which is the county that surrounds Houston, paid \$300,000 in federal Homeland Security grant money for the ShadowHawk unmanned helicopter made by Vanguard Defense Industries. It has an onboard GPS system that is designed to keep the UAV on target and connected with the ground controllers. Coordinates are plotted in advance and a command is given for the UAV to fly directly to that spot, adjusting to turbulence and other factors. The controllers can then alter the waypoints quickly on a laptop to move the UAV to other areas that had not previously been mapped out. The aircraft moves at a speed of 30 knots. “To be in on the ground floor of this is pretty exciting for us here in Montgomery County,” Sheriff Tommy Gage said. (vanguarddefense.com; 877-436-9192)



CBP Predator



Century Neo 660



Draganfly X-6



Vanguard ShadowHawk




Big Stock photo

CENTURY HELOS

The San Jose Police Department recently acquired a helicopter called the Century Neo 660 from Century Helicopter Products that is equipped with a GoPro video camera and a live video transmitter for a live video feed. The UAV costs almost \$7,000 and is controlled with a laptop computer. The UAV looks like a helicopter and weighs 50 pounds. An operator can use a game-like console to aim and zoom its powerful camera and infrared heat-seeking device mounted on the front towards a target location or individual. (centuryheli.com; 408-451-1155)

FORCE MULTIPLIERS

Many other companies including Honeywell and Applied Research Associates offer UAVs for law enforcement use on the market. Many law enforcement agencies have either applied for or have received FAA certification for their UAV use. For agencies with limited resources, the purchase of a UAV might be that inexpensive force multiplier that proves its worth when the chase is on and the risk to both the officers and the public is reduced. 



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“IT HAPPENED TO ME!”



Big Stock photo

METH LAB STANDOFF

Early in my career, I was assigned to a drug task force that covered several counties. One of my coworkers called in late one night and stated that he had a lead on a methamphetamine “cook” in his county.

He stated that the “cook” lived alone, had a big German Shepherd and was a bad man. Intel suggested that the cook carried a silver handgun with him every place he went and the dog was trained to attack. My coworker ended up trailing the guy down a winding mountain road and noticed that he dumped something along the roadway. My coworker looked through the trash the guy had dumped and found lots of evidence of a clandestine methamphetamine lab. He found several thousand blister packs from cold medicine, ether cans that were punctured on the bottom and lithium battery casings. Based upon the cook’s history and the trash he dumped, my coworker obtained an arrest warrant as well as a search warrant for his residence.

We began to plan the safest way to execute the warrant with the information we had. We were pretty sure that the cook had surveillance cameras around the house. He

rarely left the house, apparently only to dump his trash offsite. We set up around the house and waited for him to leave for a day and a half with no luck. Near the end of the second day, we devised a plan to serve the search and arrest warrant at the residence by calling him out of the house with a distraction.

My partner and I were dropped off a mile or so from the house shortly after dark that September night. We walked in and found a cove of pine trees across from the residence. We settled in and began watching the residence. About 30 minutes after we arrived, we observed a man that I recognized from the photos as the cook walking around the outside of the residence. He had one of the most beautiful German Shepherds with him that I had seen in a while. The dog was very majestic in his movements. He followed the cook around the outside of the house as we observed them from concealment. The cook appeared to be looking at his cameras mounted on the eaves of the house with a flashlight.

Then the dog stopped. It put its nose in the air and turned and looked in our direction. The dog then ran toward us, barking. My partner might have said a bit of profanity at that point, and he raised his rifle in the direction of the dog. The dog stopped at the edge of the road and continued to bark in our direction.

The cook came to the edge of the road and shined his flashlight in our direction.

Luckily, flashlight technology back then isn’t what it is today. He shined toward us but never saw us. That is when I saw it: the butt of the stainless revolver sticking out of the cook’s waistband. He yelled at the dog, and turned and walked away. The German Shepherd stayed on point and continued to bark. The cook yelled at the dog a couple of times, but the dog knew where we were. Finally, the cook came over and kicked the dog, and it reluctantly followed him back to the house.

We relayed this to our bosses. Despite our information, the warrant services went ahead on schedule. When the rest of the officers arrived, five of us went to the back of the residence. A marked car pulled into the driveway. As we rounded the back, we observed the cook standing by the back door. I yelled, “Police! Search warrant! Show me your hands!”

The cook reached for his pistol. I raised my HK53 and aimed for his chest. Even though the front sight post appeared as big as my thumb on his chest, I saw the gun come up. And that is when the most unpredictable thing happened. The cook’s

“As we rounded the back, we observed the cook standing by the back door. I yelled, ‘Police! Search warrant! Show me your hands!’”

drawstroke was an attempt to toss the pistol to the side. The gun hit a firewood pile with a resounding thunk.

The cook was taken into custody. And the bad-attitude attack dog? When the yelling started, he ran into the house. He came back out after the commotion died down and followed us around the scene the entire time we were there with his tail wagging. We had to put him outside to keep him from getting exposed to chemicals when we took the meth lab down for disposal. He was a good boy. As for the cook, we still don’t know to this day how he didn’t get shot when he reached for the gun as fast as it happened. —JE, TN

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GUNFIGHTING WITH PAT McNAMARA

Panteao's new *Carbine TAPS* DVD helps you train like you fight!

BY FRED MASTISON

In today's world, there is no shortage of training options for new and experienced shooters.

The challenge has been to sort through the static to find those who can really improve your skills. Once you've found a great instructor, it can be difficult to get to their classes because of travel costs, timing and life in general. Enter the folks at Panteao Productions and their partnership with a legend in the training community—Pat McNamara. Together they have created one of the most educational and enjoyable training videos on the market: *Make Ready with Pat McNamara: Carbine TAPS*.

Pat McNamara, who goes simply by "Mac," served for over 22 years in special operations, with 13 of those years in Delta Force. He has extensive experience from combat zones in the Middle East and Eastern Europe. He trains individuals at basic and advanced



Over 22 years of experience in special operations, with 13 of those years in Delta Force, has helped Pat McNamara develop his Tactical Application of Practical Shooting (TAPS) training.

levels of marksmanship and combat tactics. With the *Carbine TAPS* (Tactical Application of Practical Shooting) video, McNamara introduces you to his performance-based training methodology. He reviews setting up your carbine,

the basics of rifle marksmanship, discovery learning, malfunctions, use of cover, moving with a rifle, the four shooting positions, his "bilateral" drill, the "Grid of Fire" drill, the "Grinder," the "Turn and Burn," the "Blaze X" drill and





more. Panteao makes it easy to access this training—it's available as a DVD but also streaming on Panteao's website.

MAC'S BASICS

The video is as entertaining as it is educational. Mac's dynamic and direct style leaves nothing to the imagination regarding his opinions on tactics, gear and procedures. A master and devotee of the fundamentals, you will quickly appreciate Mac's goal of having you subconsciously execute driven tasks. Through meaningful repetitions, you can develop an exceptional fundamental

“For those who honestly want to be better shooters, this is an exceptional source of information.”

base to work from. The video is particularly instructive because it challenges institutional knowledge. Just because something has been taught a certain way for decades does not mean it is right. Mac does a fantastic job of pointing out these flawed areas while explaining why they're flawed and how to do them better.

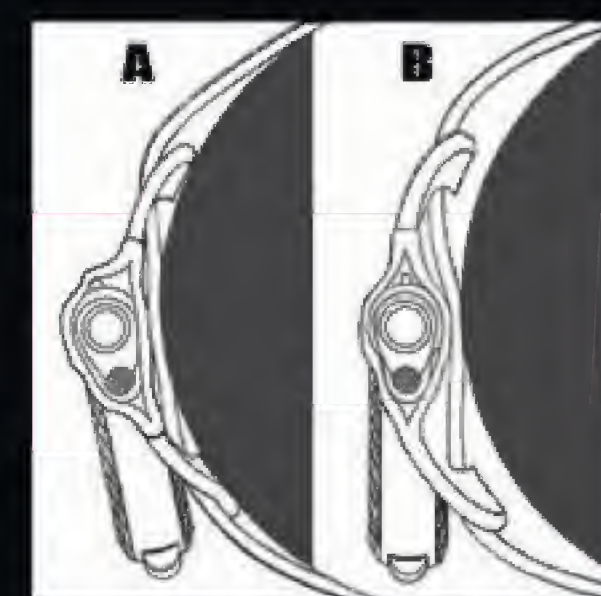


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In *Carbine TAPS*, McNamara covers several skills, including transitioning to your pistol.



McNamara is a gold mine of information, and he speaks candidly without pretense or fluff.

There are few people who can speak from as much experience as Mac can in training courses. The cliché of “been there, done that” originates with this retired Delta Force operator. It is this experience that makes the video such a gold mine of information for the serious shooter. There is no fluff or pretense. The entire production is built around how to run your carbine like a pro and successfully engage if required. Know that the training video is not for the faint of heart or those with delicate sensibilities. The use of colorful language is common but not gratuitous in any way. Mac makes statements and uses all-purpose conversation intensifiers to send them home. For those who honestly want to be better shooters, this is an exceptional source of information. For more information, visit panteao.com or call 800-381-9752.

SAFER SEARCHES

Continued from page 63

suspect's clothing is first observed for obvious threats, such as knives or other threats like hypodermic needles, and then grabbed and twisted. If you feel something in the pocket, ask what it is before reaching in with your hand. To transition to the other side, the officer just re-grips the suspect's fingers.

The greatest risk to officers using this technique is the suspect's ability to turn or pivot even with their fingers tightly held by the officer. This is more easily accomplished if the suspect is allowed to stand upright and maintain their balance.

2. Fingers interlaced behind the back: In this technique the suspect is ordered to interlace his fingers behind his back and rotate his hands so the palms are outward. The officer grasps the suspect's hands, with specific control of the pinky finger. Because the suspect's shoulders and elbows are locked, they lose leverage and most of their ability to spread their fingers.

This frisking and handcuffing style offers more control than having the suspect's fingers interlaced behind their head, but it's more complicated, requires more practice to maintain proficiency and is more difficult to maneuver a suspect into the proper position.

In both techniques, particular attention is paid to those areas where weapons and contraband are normally secreted: the appendix, groin and buttocks.

When and if a weapon or piece of contraband is detected, probable cause has been developed to warrant an arrest. The suspect should be handcuffed first and then the weapon or other evidence retrieved.

PREVENT FATAL ERRORS

To protect the officer from bodily fluids or other risks (i.e., body lice), officers may elect to wear latex gloves to protect themselves. This may result in a loss of finger sensitivity during the search. Leather, synthetic or Kevlar-lined searching gloves inhibit an officer's ability to feel through a suspect's clothing and more easily detect contraband. Having hand sanitizer in your patrol bag is a good idea.

Learn sound searching tactics and techniques and apply them on the streets on a daily basis. There are bad guys and gals concealing illegal guns, drugs and other contraband on our streets. It's our job to locate, identify, frisk and arrest them—let's just do it as safely as possible.

DUTY UPGRADES

Continued from page 13

your hand from sliding forward during stressful combat conditions. This keeps your hand off the hot barrel and sight tower. Additionally, the texturing helps you control the gun's movements.

LIGHT MOUNTS

For many, adding a white light to your rifle is important. After all, if you can't identify your target in low-light conditions, how do you know if you should shoot? Magpul offers several possibilities for adding a light to your M-LOK-equipped rifle or shotgun.

The Offset Light Mount allows for the direct attachment of SureFire M300 and M600 Scout lights or other lights with a Picatinny-style mount. Additionally, Magpul offers an optional light kit that, when combined with the Offset Light Mount, allows you to attach nearly any tactical light with a body diameter between 0.75 and 1.03 inches. The company also offers the Cantilever Rail/Light Mount that extends the light forward of the M-LOK mounting points and keeps the flashlight tight to the gun.

For anyone running a SureFire flashlight, Magpul also offers a tape switch mounting plate. The mounting plate allows you to affix a SureFire ST pressure pad to the handguard, eliminating problems with switches coming loose during use.

MORE M-LOK GEAR

Magpul rounds out the M-LOK line with a bipod mount, sling mounts and rail covers. While considered by some to be simple parts, each of these items is a critical addition to the use of a weapon outfitted with them.

Magpul offers over twenty-eight accessories along with dozens more M-LOK accessories offered by other manufacturers. M-LOK is a free licensed platform that has been adopted by well over a hundred manufacturers to allow greater compatibility of accessories.

The M-LOK system represents a huge step forward in the secure mounting of accessories to your rifle and shotgun. The system works well and offers substantial weight savings when compared with the older Picatinny rail systems. If you are looking to shave ounces from your gun, take a look at the Magpul M-LOK system. For more information, visit magpul.com or call 877-462-4785.



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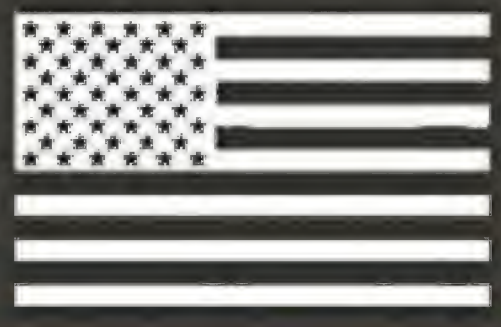
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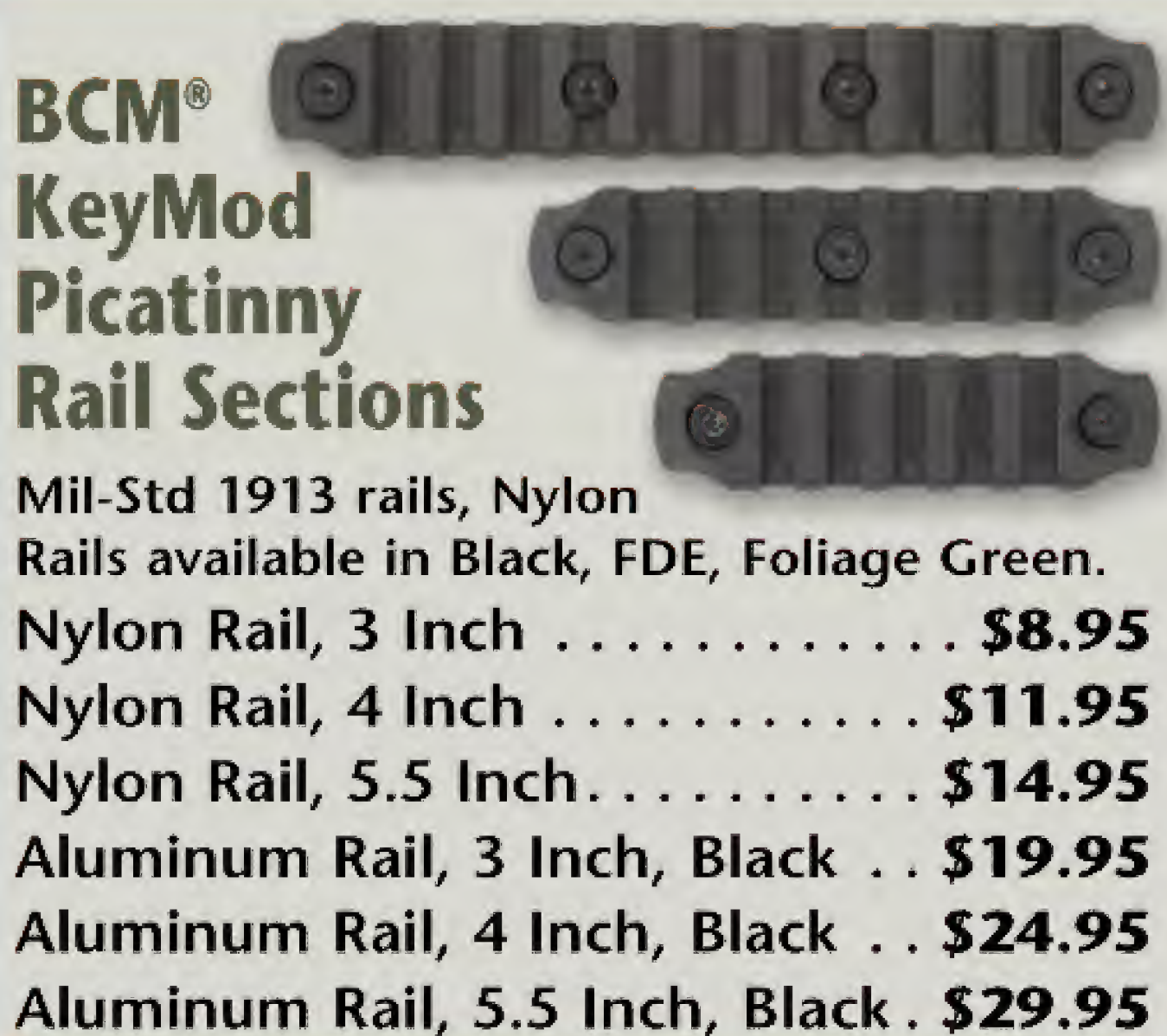
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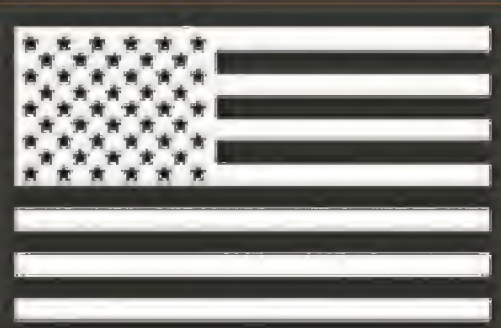
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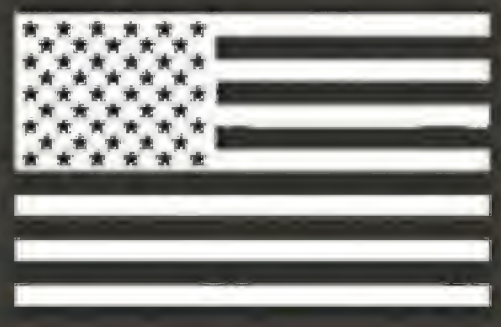


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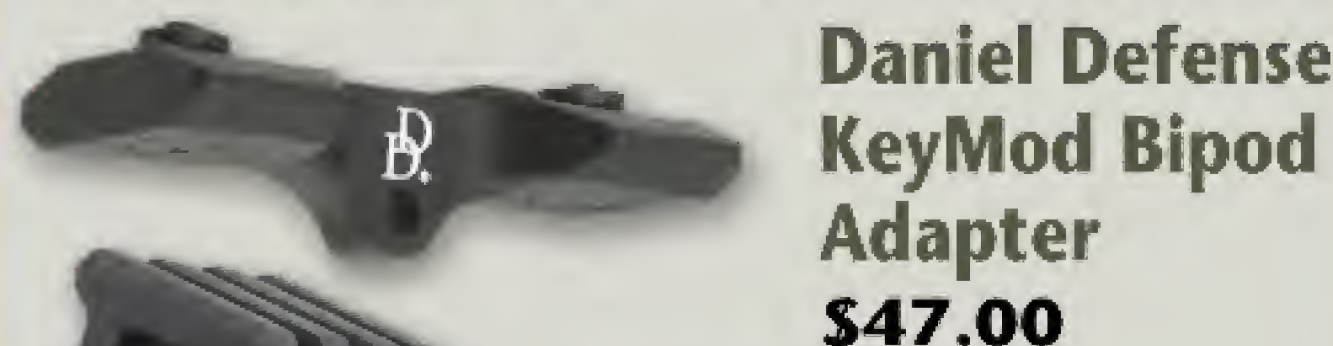


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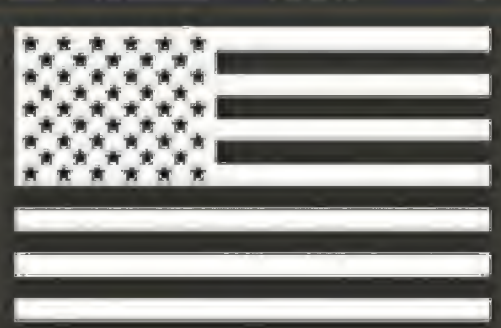
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